

ner Met Dance

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TODAY: LEISURE  
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## U.S., Welcoming Tehran's Gesture, Probes Potential For Direct Talks

By Barton Gellman  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — The Clinton administration Thursday welcomed Iran's renewed overtures to the United States and began refining a strategy for drawing the government in Tehran toward direct talks.

On the morning after President Mohammed Khatami appealed for new understanding between the two nations, the White House spokesman said President Bill Clinton "appreciates those positive remarks" and would be watching "not just what Iran says but what Iran does."

In an extraordinary interview televised Wednesday night, Mr. Khatami called for wide-ranging unofficial exchanges to break down the "bulky wall of mistrust between us and the U.S. administration," implying for the first time that an informal dialogue could lead to the resumption of diplomatic ties after 18 years of unbroken hostility.

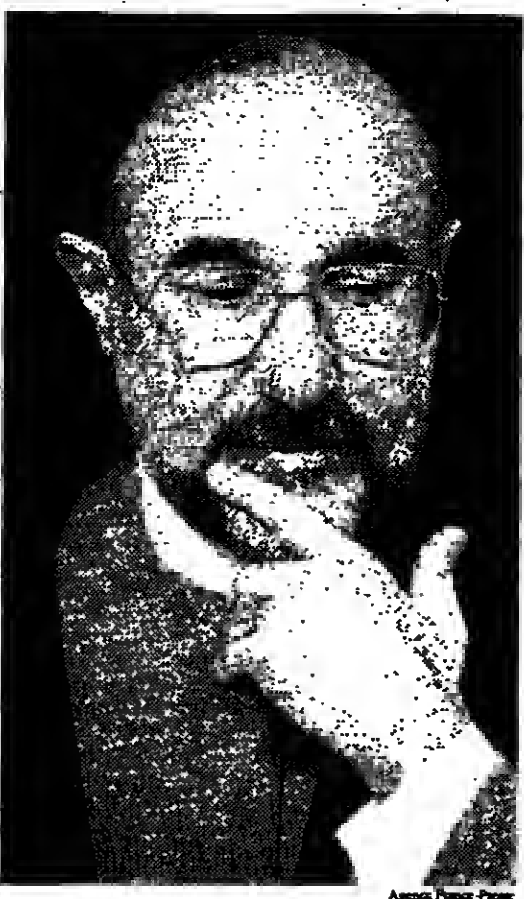
Mr. Khatami declared his solidarity with the "essence of the American civilization" and expressed regret for the 1979 hostage-taking that consolidated the Islamic revolution.

While strongly critical of U.S. governments, past and present, he said "there is no hostility between the two nations" and used a cautiously worded formula to suggest that negotiations "based on mutual respect" could "lead to positive results."

Mr. Khatami's 45-minute interview with CNN enlarged substantially on his remarks of Dec. 14, when he expressed his hope for a "thoughtful dialogue" with "the great people of the United States."

In response, U.S. policymakers said Thursday that they wanted to probe Iran's sincerity, not merely wait for encouraging changes in behavior.

"When Khatami was elected, I was frankly quite skeptical," said a foreign policy official. "Now I think there is quite a bit going on. The decision for the U.S. government is how to encourage change in a



Mr. Khatami called for wide-ranging exchanges to break down the "wall of mistrust."

way that doesn't compromise progress, and to the extent that there's a new coalescence around Khatami, that we don't ruin that."

In the interview, which was taped Tuesday in his office in Tehran, President Khatami called for an immediate "exchange of professors, writers, scholars, artists, journalists and tourists."

He twice asserted that Iran has "no need for political ties with the United States," but appeared to describe a map that might lead to those ties over time. New relations among intellectuals, he said, could "prepare for a change and create an opportunity to study a new situation."

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## A Grim Portrait Of Iran's Past Clouds Prospect For Normal Ties

By R. Jeffrey Smith  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — In September 1993, the Iranian religious leader Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei instructed his senior foreign affairs officials that their "first duty" was to cooperate with intelligence officers working to undermine secular and Western influence in the region and export the fundamentalist Islamic revolution.

To some diplomatic officials in the Middle East, this secret speech by Ayatollah Khamenei,

### NEWS ANALYSIS

the substance of which was confirmed by three governments, was the beginning of a concerted effort to destabilize and "destroy" neighboring Gulf governments.

The officials contend that American and allied assets throughout the region were singled out for covert surveillance, radicals were brought to the Bekaa Valley in Lebanon for training in bombing and assassination techniques, and cells of sympathizers were formed in a half-dozen Middle East nations on the model of the Hezbollah group in Lebanon.

Following the dictums of the speech, according to this view, Iranian agents unleashed violence in Bahrain in December 1994, hatched subversive plots in Egypt and eventually undertook the successful truck bombing of a U.S. military barracks in Saudi Arabia in June 1996, killing 19 American airmen.

It is a seamless and grim picture of officially sanctioned terrorism, and it still hangs over discussion about reconciliation between Iran, neighboring Gulf states and the United States. Some Gulf officials today ask, how can they conduct friendly relations with a country whose top leader ordered his

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## Sense of Confusion Engulfs Indonesia Government Seems Helpless As Economic Crisis Deepens

By Michael Richardson  
International Herald Tribune

President Suharto of Indonesia faced the gravest economic and political crisis of his 32-year rule Thursday as Indonesia's currency and stock market suffered declines of historic proportions.

The military urged calm in the nation of 200 million people, but the government appeared to be stunned by the severity of the economic turmoil and powerless to halt it.

Some analysts said the cabinet had been weakened by divisions as powerful military and business factions tried to influence its economic decisions and jockey for favorable positions in any succession to Mr. Suharto.

Mr. Suharto has fashioned a highly centralized political system that depends on a strong and capable leader to hold it all together.

Rumors swirled around Jakarta that Mr. Suharto, who is 76 and widely considered to be in declining health, would not seek re-election for a seventh five-year term in March.



What's in Mr. Suharto's future?

"For the first time in three decades, there is a very real possibility that the head of government could change in the next 12 months," said Bruce Gale, regional manager of Political & Economic Risk Consultancy. That could lead, he said, to "important structural adjustments in the nation's political and economic systems."

The rupiah lost 12 percent of its value Thursday, with the dollar rising in New York to 9,400 rupiah, from 8,375 on Wednesday, while the Jakarta composite index fell 12 percent, to 347.11.

Traders said shoppers were frantically snapping up goods in the capital and number of other cities.

Lieutenant General Yunus Yosfiah, the head of the sociopolitical affairs division of the armed forces, told people to "have faith that the government is trying its best to handle the crisis," the official Antara news agency reported.

Indonesian military authorities have said publicly in recent days that they expect 2 million people may soon lose their jobs, and they have vowed to suppress protests.

Meanwhile, the Jakarta Post reported that a group of retired Indonesian army generals, politicians and other public figures wanted Mr. Suharto to step down because of his age and poor health.

In the past few days, the head of Indonesia's second-largest Islamic organization and a number of student bodies have also called on the country's legislative body, the People's Consultative Assembly, not to nominate Mr. Suharto for president when it meets in March.

But diplomats in Jakarta said that despite the increasing public calls for him

## Thailand Appeals to G-7 for Help

### No Letup in Asia Chaos; Rupiah Falls Nearly 20%

By Thomas Crampton  
International Herald Tribune

BANGKOK — Stock markets and currencies fell sharply once again across Asia on Thursday, dragged down by financial turmoil and political uncertainty in Indonesia, where the rupiah lost nearly 20 percent of its value in a matter of hours.

Thailand's finance minister warned that the region's governments no longer had any hope of restoring confidence in their currencies by themselves and he issued an urgent appeal for assistance to the world's wealthiest nations, the Group of Seven.

Criticism by the United States and the International Monetary Fund that Indonesia was not serious about economic reforms sent the rupiah into a free fall that briefly reached as low as 10,000 rupiah per dollar and drove Jakarta stocks down 12 percent. Just six months ago, the currency traded at 2,500 rupiah per dollar, and it has lost 42 percent of its value in the first few days of 1998.

With currency reserves in the region depleted and strict International Monetary Fund requirements not to close off markets, analysts and traders said there was now very little officials could do to prevent their currencies from falling.

"Further cooperation from the major countries of the world would calm down the situation, which now is driven by sentiment more than by economic fundamentals," said Thailand's finance minister, Tarrin Nimmanhaeminda. "Every country is trying to help themselves, but the rapidity of the events make it very difficult to manage on an individual country level."

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## West Will Approach Algeria Over Massacres

By Charles Trueheart  
Washington Post Service

PARIS — As nearly daily massacres continue to add to the count of murdered civilians in Algeria — about a thousand people have died in the past 10 days — Western nations are beginning to gear up their diplomatic machinery to respond to public revulsion at the unchecked terror.

On Thursday, the 15 countries of the European Union decided unanimously to dispatch a delegation to Algeria to explore with the military-backed govern-

ment ways to end the violence that has taken up to 80,000 lives since 1992.

"We cannot and must not watch passively as the murder in Algeria takes place," said the German foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel.

(The Algerian foreign minister, Ahmed Aitaf, said Thursday that his government welcomed a fact-finding EU mission as long as it planned to confront "terrorism," Reuters reported.)

(The British foreign secretary, Robin Cook, said in a statement that the EU delegation would comprise representatives from Britain, which took over the

rotating EU presidency on Jan. 1; from Luxembourg, EU president for the last half of 1996, and from Austria, which will take over the presidency July 1.

[A Foreign Office spokesman said it was not yet clear when the visit by EU officials from the three countries would take place.]

"We now have agreement in principle with our EU partners that a troika mission at official level should visit Algeria," Mr. Cook said. "This is an important initial step which will help the EU get a clearer picture of the situation on the ground. It will also enable the EU

to make clear to the Algerian government the concern felt in Europe about the security situation in Algeria and our desire to offer humanitarian assistance."

The Canadian government, meanwhile, said Thursday that a senior diplomat, Claude Lavender, would go to Algeria in the next few days to evaluate the situation. Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy underscored his concern about the killings and "reiterated to the relevant authorities the need for greater transparency."

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### AGENDA

#### 240 Years in Jail for Trade Center Blast

Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, convicted of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center blast, was sentenced Thursday to life in prison without parole.

Judge Kevin Duffy of U.S. District Court said Mr. Yousef would spend the rest of his life in solitary confinement. He was sentenced to a total of 240 years.

Judge Duffy called Mr. Yousef "a follower of death and destruction," saying: "It was your god, your master, your only devotion."

"Yes, I am a terrorist and am proud of it," Mr. Yousef said. "I support terrorism."

Saying that a publisher might be "perverse enough to buy your story," Judge Duffy also fined Mr. Yousef \$4.5 million and ordered him to pay \$250 million in damages to ensure that any gain would go to his victims.

Six people were killed and about 1,000 wounded in the February 1993 World Trade Center blast. In November, he was found guilty on 11 counts in connection with the blast. Page 10.

#### Unabomber Suspect Seeks to Defend Self

Theodore Kaczynski, the Unabomber suspect accused of a string of bombings that killed three people, again disrupted the opening of his trial in Sacramento, California, as he proposed Thursday to serve as his own attorney.

Mr. Kaczynski's request, announced by his defense lawyer, Judy Clarke, followed a week of wrangling over how he would be represented in the case and put the trial on hold again as his lawyers and Judge Garland Burrell discussed what the next move should be.

Ms. Clarke said the mental illness defense planned by the lawyers was a situation her client "cannot endure."

Mr. Kaczynski tried twice this week to fire his current legal team.

Judge Burrell gave lawyers for both sides a brief break to discuss the implications of the request.

Mr. Kaczynski, 55, has pleaded not guilty to charges that he carried out four of the 16 bombings attributed to the Unabomber, killing two Sacramento men. If he is convicted, he could face the death penalty. Page 3.



UK Pres

EURO OPTIMIST — Prime Minister Tony Blair predicted a "new era" for Britain in the European Union in London on Thursday. Page 5.

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## Beset by Crime, Germany to Loosen Bugging Curbs

By William Drozdiak  
Washington Post Service

BERLIN — The German government announced a major change in civil lib-

erties law on Thursday that will grant the police far greater powers to plant bugging devices in private homes to collect evidence against criminal suspects.

The landmark change, reached after delicate negotiations between Chancellor Helmut Kohl's governing conservatives and the opposition Social Democrats, will permit eavesdropping practices banned by the constitution since 1945 because of widespread abuses during the Nazi era.

Germany has maintained some of the West's strictest privacy protections because of the Nazi legacy, but anxiety about soaring crime rates impelled political leaders to break with postwar tradition and give the police one of the key crime-fighting tools they have long demanded to cope with drug smuggling and other organized criminal activities.

"This is a decisive step toward more effective ways to fight crime," Interior

Minister Manfred Kanther said. "We can now keep surveillance on suspected gangster apartments and we will be able to better fight money laundering."

Leaders of Mr. Kohl's coalition and the Social Democrats said their pact ensured that both houses of Parliament could pass the measure quickly so that German police will be able to coordinate surveillance operations with colleagues from other countries where similar snooping practices have been permitted for years.

But the agreement was quickly attacked by leftist politicians, civil libertarians and journalists as a threat to basic democratic freedoms in postwar Germany that have guaranteed the privacy of a person's home from intrusions by the state.

The Greens party and the former Communists of the Party of Democratic Socialism lambasted their opposition

partners, the Social Democrats, for supporting the controversial legislation which they claimed was motivated by short-term interests ahead of national elections next September.

"The Social Democratic party is now an accomplice to the further demolition of our constitution," said Juergen Trittin, chairman of the Greens, who are hoping to enter government later this year as part of a Red-Green coalition headed by the Social Democrats. "The Greens reject any attack on the inviolability of the private home as guaranteed in the constitution."

German journalists also criticized the legislation, saying it would violate free press guarantees because the police would gain the authority to hug reporters' homes in their hunt for their sources suspected of criminal activities.

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## Korean President-Elect Blames Strongman Rule

### People Were 'Deceived' on Economy, Kim Says

By Kevin Sullivan  
Washington Post Service

ILSAN, South Korea — President-elect Kim Dae Jung of South Korea on Thursday attributed much of Asia's financial crisis to governments that lie to their people and authoritarian leaders who have placed economic growth ahead of democratic freedoms.

"Many of the leaders of Asian society have been saying that military dictatorship was the way and democracy was not good for their nations," Mr. Kim said, in a 90-minute interview with the Washington Post at his home in this suburb of Seoul.

"They concentrated only on economic development," he said, without specifying any nations but referring to "Asian-style democracy," in which governments are built around a single strong leader who controls economic policy.

"I believe that the fundamental cause of the financial crisis, including here in Korea, is because of placing economic development ahead of democracy," he said.

Mr. Kim, a crusader for democracy and human rights who was imprisoned,

exiled, sentenced to death and survived assassination attempts at the hands of South Korea's previous military dictators, also said he hoped his life would inspire his nation's youth.

"If parents can tell their kids: 'Look at Kim Dae Jung: live upright, put your effort into a good cause and you will be successful,' then I think my life would be very meaningful," said Mr. Kim, who won the presidency last month on his fourth attempt over the past quarter-century.

Mr. Kim also reaffirmed his "100 percent commitment" to the \$60 billion bailout of his country's crippled economy, led by the International Monetary Fund. Although the Fund is demanding tough changes that are expected to lead to massive layoffs and corporate bankruptcies, Mr. Kim, who has close ties with the nation's militant labor unions, said he believed he would be able to negotiate a deal to avert strikes that could hamper the recovery of one of the world's largest economies.

Mr. Kim described South Korea's relationship with the United States as "mutually beneficial" on matters of

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Newsstand Prices

Andorra	10.00 FF	Lebanon	11.3.000
Antilles	12.50 FF	Morocco	18 Dh
Cameroon	1.800 CFA	Catar	10.00 QF
Egypt	5.50	Réunion	12.50 FF
France	10.00 FF	Saudi Arabia	10 SF
Gabon	1.100 CFA	Senegal	1.100 CFA
Italy	2.800 Lira	Spain	225 Ptas
Ivory Coast	1.250 CFA	Tunisia	1.250 Dn
Jordan	1.250 JD	U.A.E.	10.00 Dh
Kuwait	700 Fils	U.S. (Eur.)	\$1.20





## Crime and Punishment / Don't Get Arrested in Moscow

## The Illness and Barbarism of Russia's Jails

By Alessandra Stanley  
New York Times Service

MOSCOW — Prisoners almost always swear they are not guilty. In the pretrial detention centers of Russia, many inmates insist that they no longer care about proving their innocence.

"At first, all I wanted was a fair trial," Pyotr Kuznetsov, 51, said in a dank and stinking cell of Matrosskaya Tishina, one of Moscow's largest and most infamous detention centers.

He said he had been arrested, and brutally beaten, for stealing about \$5 and had already spent 10 months behind bars awaiting trial. His lice-ridden 18th-century cell, built for 30, was stuffed with more than 100 men. They share beds, sleeping in three shifts.

"All I want now is to get out of here, even to a labor camp," Mr. Kuznetsov said. "I've been in prison before, and it is not as bad as this."

The Russian penitentiary system competes with that in the United States as one of the largest in the world: Each has a population of more than one million inmates. And the Russian system is arguably one of the worst. Prisons are underfunded, overcrowded and alarmingly unsanitary. Human rights abuses abound. Tuberculosis is spreading wildly.

The government has no reliable data, but estimates suggest that tuberculosis rates in prisons are anywhere from 20 to 60 times as high as in the rest of the population, which has a TB death rate 24 times that of the United States. As many as 50 percent of Russian prisoners are believed to be infected.

But perhaps the most terrifying aspect of the penal system is pretrial detention. Close to 300,000 people awaiting trial are now in jail. There, a death sentence stalks people who have not yet been convicted of a crime.

Unprotected from the TB epidemic and other infectious diseases, many detainees end up spending two, three and even four years awaiting their day in court in cells as packed as a rush-hour subway car. "During my six years in Soviet prisons, I lived through many horrors," said Valeri Abramkin, a dissident during the Soviet years who is now an advocate for prison reform. "I saw people suspended on iron hooks under their ribs. I saw German shepherds eat living human flesh."

Those tortures, he said, were at least of short duration. Today, people endure inhuman conditions for years. "It is certain that conditions in normal jails were not this bad even under Stalin."

There is no money in the Russian budget to build new prisons or even repair old ones, so efforts to creep closer to Western standards rarely go beyond the paper they are printed on.

A law was passed last year increasing the amount of space to which a prisoner is entitled — from 27 square feet to 43 square feet (2.2 square meters to 3.9 square meters). In the United States, prisoners are supposed to be allotted 80 square feet.

The reality of places like Matrosskaya Tishina is that prisoners fight over less than a square foot.

And the Russian legal system is so tortuous that people can find themselves detained for months or years even on minor charges. Prosecutors are legally required to complete a criminal investigation within two years, but there is no time limit for judges, who can keep a suspect waiting for trial indefinitely. The average stay in detention is 10 months.

In the United States, where every state has a speedy-trial law, the average detention is 74 days. Most defendants get to trial within 45 days. And 65 percent of Americans accused of felonies are released on bail.

In Soviet times, bail was dismissed as a capitalist folly. Today, bail is legal, but it remains a novelty, granted to less than 2 percent of the country's accused — usually to mobsters who have ready cash and connections to a compliant judge.

The courts here operate on the European in-



Cells at Matrosskaya Tishina, Moscow's infamous pre-trial jail, were designed to house 30 inmates. Each one now holds more than 100 in filthy conditions that breed tuberculosis. Fifty percent of Russian prisoners are believed to be infected.

quisitorial model rather than the American adversarial system, putting an additional strain on overloaded judges and narrowing defendants' chances.

"Under our system, it is much harder to acquit than find a person guilty," said Sergei Pashin, an appeals court judge in Moscow. "Less than one percent of all cases end in an acquittal, and that is because before a judge can acquit, he must do a huge amount of work that is not done by the police: requesting information, soliciting expert testimony, etc."

THE FACT that time served before trial is subtracted from convicted prisoners' sentences can hardly be viewed as justice, Judge Pashin said. "The pretrial detention centers are a far worse punishment than any prison," he said. Prisons and labor camps in Russia are grim, but they are not nearly as overcrowded.

The judge added that often in the cases that come before him, confessions are beaten out of suspects — and even out of people rounded up as witnesses.

In a report issued last year on torture in Russia, the human rights group Amnesty International said that "torture and ill-treatment occur at all stages of detention and imprisonment," but noted that it was most often reported in pretrial detention.

"Its main purpose appears to be to intimidate detainees and obtain confessions," the report said. Confessions, more than evidence, are a major part of criminal investigations in Russia. Inside Matrosskaya Tishina, where 5,000 prisoners are held in a prison built for 2,000, lies a Dickensian world of filth, squalor and disease. Inside fetid, windowless cells, prisoners are covered in lice.

Rats dart out of walls. Prisoners stretch out tin bowls through a tiny opening in the door to receive bread and a gloopy gruel of kasha, or hockweat, that is served for breakfast, lunch and dinner. The exercise yards are cement rooms in the attic, where prisoners can see the sky by squinting through a webbed roof of barbed wire.

Directly outside the prison walls teems another closed circle of misery: Parents and wives, who line up for hours and even days just to deliver a packet of

food or medicine to their locked-up relatives.

Matrosskaya Tishina has its own tuberculosis hospital, where 700 infected detainees are being treated in a 220-bed ward. Vasili Podguzhnikov, Moscow's chief of corrections, said 70 detainees died in the first nine months of 1996 — more than half of them from TB.

"We put them in the hospital, and when they get better they go back to the cells, and within three months they get sick again," he said. "What can you expect with this humidity and overcrowding?"

He said his budget was cut by a third last year, and he expects more cuts this year. Guards make less than \$100 a month, and prisons are seriously understaffed. Escapes are not uncommon. "Only the lazy don't escape from here," he said with a weary smile.

Yuri Skuratov, Russia's chief prosecutor, toured the country's main detention centers last spring and described himself as appalled by what he had seen. He warned that unless "urgent measures" were taken, there could be a "social explosion."

There was a rash of prison riots in 1992, which were harshly put down. Conditions have since worsened, but there have been few major disturbances.

"Inmates understand perfectly well that the prison authorities are not responsible for their conditions," said Yuri Aleksandrov, a prisoners' rights activist for the otoprofit agency Novy Dom. "The whole criminal justice system is to blame. It's a mentality that dates back to Stalin."

Russia, which was a member of the Council of Europe last year on the condition that it reform its criminal justice system, agreed to abolish the death penalty. This year, the government also pledged to transfer jurisdiction over prisons from the Interior Ministry to the Justice Ministry.

The intent is to increase the independence of the judiciary and give the prison authorities some autonomy from law enforcement agencies, but few in Russia expect the changes to alter prison conditions.

"It may make a difference, but not for the best," said Mr. Podguzhnikov, using the Russian slang for prisoner. "For the best, nothing is going to change anytime soon."

## After Land-Mine Ban, Assault Rifles Targeted

By Raymond Bonner  
New York Times Service

VIENNA — Buoyed by their surprising success in achieving a treaty to ban land mines, a range of nongovernmental groups from academic institutes to human rights and aid agencies are now gearing for a campaign against assault rifles and other light weapons, which inflame ethnic and nationalist wars around the world.

The campaigners do not have as their goal a gun-free world, which they say would be unrealistic. Rather they seek to curb the brisk, largely unregulated trade in the kind of light weapons that end up in the hands of terrorist and organized-crime syndicates as well as warring factions.

"It is the real arms-control issue of the post-Cold War era," said Joseph Smaldone, a veteran of the Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, who took part last month in a Washington conference on the small-arms trade. "Small arms are the real weapons of mass destruction."

The land mines campaigners achieved great success, now they are going to capitalize on that momentum," Mr. Smaldone said. "It is already well organized and deeply committed, and it brings together everyone from arms control types to humanitarian activists."

One week after the land-mine treaty was signed in Ottawa in early December, a two-day conference took place in Washington on "Controlling the Global Trade in Light Weapons," sponsored by the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and the Carnegie Commission on Preventing Deadly Conflict. It was attended by arms-control advocates from as far away as South Africa, India and New Zealand, as well as by Clinton administration officials.

Foreign Minister Lloyd Axworthy of Canada, who played a lead role in the

land-mines campaign, has said trafficking in small arms is next on the agenda.

In Norway, another leader in the land-mines campaign — the Red Cross — and three other nongovernmental groups announced last month that they were opening a campaign against small-arms trafficking. The coalition already has a \$700,000 war chest, some of it from the Norwegian government.

During the Cold War, the world's powers sought to prevent the outbreak of deadly war by controlling the proliferation of nuclear and strategic weapons. A treaty banning chemical weapons went into effect last year.

But no treaty or comprehensive monitoring system exists for small arms or light weapons. These are generally defined as weapons that can be carried by an individual, or fired by a small crew. They include automatic rifles, submachine guns, rocket-propelled grenade launchers, small mortars and shoulder-fired anti-aircraft missiles.

It is these weapons, in this era of wars between ethnic groups, that are wreaking mayhem around the world — in Bosnia, Somalia, Rwanda, Sudan, Algeria, Afghanistan, Sri Lanka. The death toll in each of these conflicts has been in the tens of thousands.

Adding to the urgency for action on small arms, more than 80 percent of the victims of the small-arms wars are not combatants, but women and children, a special U.S. committee of governmental experts on small arms said in a report in August.

The ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia was carried out largely with rifles, grenades and light artillery.

Modern technology has also made weapons lighter and easier to use, contributing to a phenomenal rise in child soldiers — who number more than 200,000 under the age of 16, according to the United Nations.

## U.S. Agency May Order Checks On 737s Due to SilkAir Crash

By Don Phillips  
Washington Post Service

WASHINGTON — Investigators at the site of a SilkAir crash in Indonesia have discovered parts missing from the tail section of the Boeing 737-300, according to aviation sources, which will probably lead the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration to order inspections of other 737-300s, the world's most popular airliner.

The sources cautioned that the problem found at the scene of the Dec. 19 crash could well be a one-time anomaly that would not indicate a systemic problem in the popular twin-jet, but that the aviation agency cannot ignore the possibility. The sources said the problem also apparently would not lead investigators any closer to determining a cause for two mysterious 737 crashes, at Pittsburgh and Colorado Springs.

The U.S. agency has issued a brief statement, saying only that it is "intensely" evaluating information from the SilkAir accident scene and "is taking steps to be ready to direct safety inspections on some Boeing 737s should that become necessary."

Sources said initial word from the remote crash scene on the island of Sumatra indicated that fasteners — sometimes called rivets or bolts — were

missing from the leading edge of the horizontal stabilizer and from a hinge on the elevator — both of which help control up-and-down movement. Why they were missing is unknown, but sources said the FAA is likely to order inspections, probably immediately.

There are numerous possible reasons for fasteners to be missing: They could have popped out because of crash forces; airplanes have crashed in the past because maintenance forces failed to install enough fasteners after maintenance; vibration, or flutter, in flight is another possibility, although unlikely.

In any case, lack of fasteners might have allowed parts of the plane to work loose gradually or jam in flight. Investigators are to look into this as one of the possible causes of the crash.

The SilkAir plane plunged from a cruising altitude of 35,000 feet (10,600 meters) on the afternoon of Dec. 19 while on a flight from Jakarta to Singapore, killing all 104 people aboard. SilkAir, a subsidiary of Singapore Airlines, flies to 21 cities in Asia.

U.S. interest in the accident has been intense because 737s have been involved in two unexplained crashes in the United States in which planes suddenly plunged from a much lower altitude. The 737 is the world's most widely used airliner, with 2,950 delivered.

## TRAVEL UPDATE

## Zimbabwe Says Its Airspace Is Safe

HARARE (Reuters) — The Department of Civil Aviation on Thursday acknowledged occasional equipment failures at airports in Zimbabwe but dismissed charges that the country's airspace was unsafe.

"This is machinery," said Amon Marawa, director of the department. "It sometimes fails and we repair it. But these hair-raising stories they are telling are pure fiction."

He was referring to assertions by 67 air traffic controllers who were dismissed by the government last month after they went on strike over pay. The controllers said there had been near collisions in the country's airspace due to aged equipment.

In South Africa, a spokesman for South African Airways, Leon Els, said there had been an incident of "reduced separation" involving two SAA planes and other aircraft in Zimbabwean airspace in December. He said it was not life-threatening. He also said the airline's pilots were confident of landing safely at Harare.

## Heavy Snow in Tokyo and Nagano

TOKYO (Reuters) — Heavy snowfalls paralyzed traffic and disrupted rail and air services in Tokyo on Thursday. The snow delayed the Shinkansen bullet train and caused the cancellation of 82 domestic flights. Some trains in central Tokyo were also halted.

The meteorological agency predicted snowfalls of up to 20 centimeters in Tokyo and 40 centimeters in Nagano prefecture, where the Winter Olympics will begin on Feb. 7. By 10 P.M. on Thursday, 11 centimeters of snow had fallen in Tokyo and 30 centimeters in Nagano. The snowfall was expected to continue through early Friday, the meteorological agency said.

Rescue workers evacuated 23 American tourists near Petra, Jordan, after two buses in which they had been riding became stuck for six hours following heavy rain, the newspaper Al Rai reported Thursday. No one was hurt. (AP)

## Correction

A caption in Thursday's issue incorrectly spelled Andersonstown, in western Belfast, Northern Ireland.

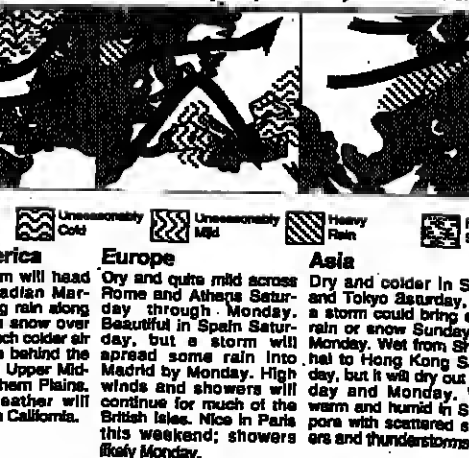
## Huge Storms Batter Central U.S.

NEW YORK (AP) — A storm stretching from Mississippi to Canada forced people from their homes Thursday, closing highways and damaging houses. At least four deaths were blamed on flooding.

## WEATHER

Forecast for Saturday through Monday, as provided by AccuWeather.

Europe	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	Day After	High	Low
Algeria	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Athens	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Amsterdam	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Brussels	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Cairo	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
London	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Madrid	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Moscow	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
New York	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Paris	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Rome	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Tokyo	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Washington	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40



Maps, forecasts and data provided by AccuWeather, Inc. 01/08 - http://www.accuweather.com

North America	Today	High	Low	Tomorrow	High	Low	Day After	High	Low
Alaska	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Arizona	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
California	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Colorado	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Connecticut	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Delaware	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
District of Columbia	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Florida	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Georgia	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Hawaii	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Idaho	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Illinois	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Indiana	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Iowa	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Kansas	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Kentucky	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Louisiana	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Maine	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Maryland	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Massachusetts	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Michigan	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Minnesota	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Mississippi	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Missouri	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Montana	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Nebraska	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Nevada	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
New Hampshire	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
New Jersey	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
New Mexico	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
New York	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
North Carolina	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
North Dakota	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Oahu	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Ohio	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Oklahoma	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Oregon	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Pennsylvania	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Rhode Island	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
South Carolina	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
South Dakota	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Tennessee	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Texas	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Utah	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Vermont	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Virginia	62	62	50	62	62	50	62	62	50
Washington	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
West Virginia	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Wisconsin	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40
Wyoming	50	50	40	50	50	40	50	50	40

	Today			Tomorrow		
	High	Low	W	High	Low	W
Algeria	62	50	62	62	50	62
Amman	62	50	62	62	50	62
Bangkok	62	50	62	62	50	62
Beijing	50	40	50	50	40	50
Bombay	62	50	62	62	50	62
Buenos Aires	62	50	62	62	50	62
Calcutta	62	50	62	62	50	62
Chang Mai	50	40	50	50	40	50
Chongqing	50	40	50	50	40	50
Cairo	62	50	62	62	50	62
Chengdu	50	40	50	50	40	50
Hankow	50	40	50	50	40	50
Hong Kong	62	50	62	62	50	62
Kobe	62	50	62	62	50	62
Kuala Lumpur	62	50	62	62	50	62
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Kuala Lumpur	62	50	62	62	5	



THE AMERICAS

# In Canada, a Mea Culpa

## Government Apologizes to Native Peoples

By Howard Schneider  
Washington Post Service

TORONTO — The government has apologized to the Indian, Inuit and other aboriginal peoples of Canada for decades of mistreatment, offering an emotional atonement for policies that sought to stamp out native culture and confined Indian children in often abusive government-run schools.

Following an Indian drum and dance performance, and clutching a ceremonial feather, Jane Stewart, Canada's minister of Indian affairs and northern development, read an official "Statement of Reconciliation" that acknowledged the damage done to native populations beginning with the arrival of Europeans in the 15th century and running through modern efforts to suppress native religion and language.

The statement dealt in broad terms with an array of offenses, including the hanging of Louis Riel, a leader of the Metis people — descendants of intermingling between early French explorers and native tribes — who was convicted of treason and executed in 1885 for his role in a Saskatchewan uprising.

Ms. Stewart said she hoped the statement would inaugurate a new relationship between Canada and its original residents, and she pledged \$250 million for a "healing fund" to help those who suffered physical and mental abuse at the government-run schools. The schools were not closed until the 1970s and left a legacy of emotional scars among generations of Indians who remember them as places where they were secluded from their families, forbidden to speak their languages and, in the harshest cases, physically abused.

Ms. Stewart said, "As a country, we are humbled by past actions that resulted in weakening the identity of aboriginal peoples, suppressing their languages and cultures, and outlawing spiritual practices." She read the statement from a scroll that was presented to representatives of Canada's five major Indian organizations.

"The government of Canada today formally expresses to all aboriginal people in Canada our profound regret for past actions of the federal government which have contributed to these difficult pages in the history of our relationship together," she said.

Along with the healing fund, Ms. Stewart said the government would begin working with Indian leaders to develop health, counseling and economic development programs to address unemployment, teenage suicide and other chronic social problems plaguing many native communities.

Native affairs have remained among Canada's most pressing domestic concerns. Indians are the fastest-growing segment of Canadian society.

Many provinces, most notably British Columbia, are involved in treaty negotiations with Indian groups over basic questions of land title and access to resources that were not settled in the colonial era. On several occasions, courts have recognized aboriginal rights to harvest resources contained on traditional lands — limiting what was assumed to be provincial jurisdiction over forests and fishing grounds, for example.

The statement of reconciliation, therefore, is not only an ethical expression of sorrow but also an acknowledgment that Canada still needs to resolve questions about how to divide the wealth of the land between cultures. After decades of legal battles, time-consuming talks and sometimes violent protests by natives asserting traditional land claims, the statement is a step in the right direction, said Phil Fontaine, grand chief of the Assembly of First Nations, a coalition of native groups.

"For the first time in history," Mr. Fontaine said, "this government has accepted that Canada cannot achieve its full potential without the success of native peoples who form 2.7 percent of the population but loom much larger in Canada's history and self-image."

Not all Indian leaders were as accepting of the government's comments as Mr. Fontaine. Some said the apology was not strong enough and that the remedial steps announced were insufficient for a government expecting to run a budget surplus.

Mr. Bennett said in a television interview. "One, Paula Jones and her principal advisers," he said, "are of the view that they will sell more books with a splashy trial. I'm not guessing, I'm not speculating, I know that for a fact." Mr. Bennett said those advisers included Mrs. Jones's husband and her spokeswoman.

"Secondly, the people funding the litigation, such as the Rutherford Institute, they want to embarrass the president," Mr. Bennett added, referring to the Virginia-based nonprofit conservative group.

As it stands now, Mr. Clinton is to testify on Jan. 17 at the White House. But that may be delayed.

Mr. Bennett said that disclosure of the deposition date on Wednesday by The Washington Times made it likely that the deposition would be delayed, in part because it could create a media spectacle with Mrs. Jones's arrival at the White House.

"That's a very soft date now that it has been leaked," Mr. Bennett said.

Mr. Clinton has denied Mrs. Jones's allegations and said he does not recall meeting her.

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A Zapatista rebel standing guard at a guerrilla base in Oventic, Chiapas. Villagers who had fled after the Mexican Army set up a post nearby returned this week.

# Chiapas Governor Resigns

## Official Is Accused of Ignoring Warnings of Massacre

By Julia Preston  
New York Times Service

MEXICO CITY — The governor of the southern state of Chiapas has resigned, becoming the latest high-level politician to fall in the aftermath of the December killings of 45 Indian villagers by a pro-government paramilitary group in a hamlet in his state.

Governor Julio Cesar Ruiz Ferro, who has been accused by Roman Catholic Church and opposition leaders in Chiapas of ignoring many warning signs of tension in the region, requested an indefinite leave of absence, saying only that Chiapas "needs a new strategy."

President Ernesto Zedillo did not ask directly for the resignation, officials close to Mexico's leader said, but sent numerous signals since the Dec. 22 killings that he was dissatisfied with the Chiapas governor, who is a member of Mr. Zedillo's political party, the Institutional Revolutionary Party, or PRI.

"The message is clear: In this case we are not going to protect anyone," an official said. "Human lives were lost because the governor did not have a clear view of what was happening in his state. He should have had a grip on it, and he didn't."

Immediately after the killings the president wrestled the investigation out of the hands of state authorities and handed it over to the country's attorney general.

Several senior officials of Mr. Ruiz Ferro's

administration, including his chief of staff and top security official, are being investigated by the federal authorities for possible criminal negligence in connection with the violence in the hamlet of Acteal, in the Tzotzil Indian township of Chenalhó.

A top Catholic prelate, the Reverend Gonzalo Duarte, said he called the state security chief at midday on Dec. 22 to relay reports of gunfire received from villagers in Chenalhó. Although there is a joint state police and army outpost within a mile of the hamlet, security forces were never dispatched to the scene, even while the shootings of unarmed Indian refugees, including many women and children, continued throughout the afternoon.

On Jan. 3, Mr. Zedillo dismissed the interior minister, Emilio Chuayffert Chernor, who had been his top political operator. Mr. Chuayffert was in charge of guiding negotiations with the Zapatista rebels. The talks broke down in late 1996, leaving the conflict to fester.

So far, Mr. Ruiz Ferro has not been the target of a criminal investigation.

Some 46 people, most of them Tzotzil Indians from neighboring villages in the same township, have been arrested on charges up to first degree murder in the killings. The Chenalhó mayor, Jacinto Arias Cruz, also a member of the government party, was accused of organizing and arming the gang of killers and is in jail on charges of assault and conspiracy.

# Miami Mayor's Antics Keep Radio Call-In Lines Ringing

By Donald P. Baker  
Washington Post Service

MIAMI — Even if the voice on the answering machine at The Miami Herald had not been a familiar one, the caller left no doubt: "This is the mayor of Miami," said Xavier Suarez.

The volatile mayor, whose actions and antics have shaken an already unstable city government — his first three appointments as city manager quit rather than head his demand to fire a popular police chief — warned the newspaper to "be nice to me, my people, my citizens and my city," or face the loss of \$200,000 a year in city ads.

"I note that we are subsidizing you and your newspaper with ads related to official offices of the city," Mr. Suarez said.

Derisively referring to the Herald's publisher, David Lawrence Jr., as the "maximum leader of the free world for the publishing company," the mayor threatened to "figure out every possible way of advertising in any possible newspaper except yours" if he "did not get better treatment."

The newspaper, which has shadowed Mr. Suarez closely since he took office Nov. 14 — the day after he was elected, having barely survived a primary on the strength of absentee ballots that are still being investigated for possible fraud — responded by making his recorded call available on the Herald's call-in information service.

Mr. Suarez, a Harvard-educated lawyer who served as mayor from 1989 to 1993, promised to take swift action to get the city back on track upon being elected Miami's first executive mayor. The city's voters approved a charter change in September that gave the mayor greater powers.

But few expected that in seeking that goal Mr. Suarez, 48, would:

- Knock on the door of a retired city employee late at night to confront her about a critical letter she had written to him, only to be greeted by a 38-caliber gun and a request to go away.

- Pledge to make Miami the world's cleanest city by the end of 1997, even if garbage workers had to work overtime, an idea the workers' union quickly vetoed.

- Drive to the Herald in his bathrobe in the middle of the night to buy an early edition of the newspaper, saying he had a "hunch" that it would contain a negative story about him.

- Make an impromptu visit to Mr. Koch and the developer Donald Trump during a trip to New York in which he unsuccessfully tried to convince Wall Street analysts that Miami's budget crisis was a myth.

- Carl Haasen, a Herald columnist, wrote at that time that before Mr. Suarez came home, he should drop by Bellevue, the psychiatric hospital, for a checkup "because the mayor is either certifiably nuts or seriously undermedicated."

- But it is not just columnists who are talking about the

mayor's actions. His conduct is debated daily on the city's radio stations, especially the Spanish-language ones, and in Little Havana, the heart of Mr. Suarez's Cuban-American constituency. Many support his attack on the Herald and other bastions of the business establishment.

And a University of Miami political scientist, Annette Sciacca, said that Mr. Suarez was right in "legitimately testing the boundaries" of his new powers by attempting to replace the police chief and reduce the number of city workers. But she said he was wrong in continuing to push issues that he could not win.

A former mayor, Maurice Ferre, said on a Spanish radio program: "He is destroying Miami."

Despite its glistening skyline and shimmering beaches, multicultural Miami is the nation's fourth poorest city, still growing because of an unending stream of legal and illegal immigrants. Many affluent residents have fled to the suburbs.

Joe Carolla, the former mayor who was defeated by Mr. Suarez in a runoff election, said last fall that Miami

had "just gone through the worst year in our history."

"We not only had the biggest scandal," he said, "but we probably had the worst financial time of any major city."

With a deficit of \$70 million, equal to about a quarter of its \$275 million annual budget, the city had to endure a state-imposed oversight commission that still, to the dismay of Mr. Suarez, controls local spending.

The corruption, unearthed in an FBI investigation called Operation Greenpalm, has resulted in prison sentences for a former city manager for accepting bribes; the resignation of the port director amid charges of lavish entertainment and illegal campaign contributions — offset when

he was hired as a consultant to clean up the mess he had left — and the indictment of one of the city's five commissioners, or council members, on charges of money laundering and mortgage fraud.

That commissioner, Humberto Hernandez Jr., whose predecessor is serving a 27-month prison term for accepting a \$200,000 payoff from a company bidding on a city computer contract, promptly was tapped by Mr. Suarez to head an investigation into the state attorney's inquiry of voter fraud.

J. L. Plummer Jr., a city commissioner, said Wednesday that Mr. Suarez is "going too fast. People have urged him to slow down, take things easier, be more methodical in his actions."

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## POLITICAL NOTES

### Cisneros Pleads Not Guilty

WASHINGTON (AP) — Henry Cisneros, the former housing secretary, pleaded not guilty Thursday to charges that he lied to conceal payments made to his former mistress while he was under consideration as a cabinet member.

Mr. Cisneros appeared at the federal court arraignment along with the woman, Linda Jones, who is also charged with participating in the conspiracy to obstruct the FBI background investigation as Bill Clinton was preparing to take office.

Mr. Cisneros is accused of concealing that he paid Ms. Jones more than \$250,000 to maintain silence about their affair. Most of the money was paid before Mr. Cisneros became head of the Department of Housing and Urban Development, but the indictment charges he paid Ms. Jones nearly \$80,000 his first year in office.

Two former employees, John Rosales and Sylvia Arce-Garcia, also pleaded not guilty to charges that they took part in the conspiracy to conceal their boss's payments to Ms. Jones. Both had worked at Mr. Cisneros's San Antonio communications company and followed him to the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

U.S. District Judge Stanley Sporkin set the trial for Nov. 2. (AP)

### Fix California, Wilson Urges

SACRAMENTO, California — Governor Pete Wilson, saying that the "state of the state is strong and getting stronger every day," warned lawmakers at their opening legislative session that California's prosperity was still threatened by crumbling public facilities and expanding government.

Mr. Wilson said the state had a duty — especially during good times — to repair outdated buildings and structures. He asked lawmakers to place nearly \$7 billion in construction bonds on the ballot this year for state schools and colleges, parks, prisons, water facilities and environmental resources.

At the same time, Mr. Wilson responded to Republican concerns about such major new spending plans by announcing that he would seek voter approval for a new and tighter cap on annual budget growth.

"California has become the powerhouse of the Pacific," he said. "But a word of caution. The nightmare of the early 1990s wasn't just a recession. California was losing jobs wholesale because we'd ceased to be attractive to investors and job creators."

"Never, ever again can we let that happen to California," he added. (LAT)

### Quote/Unquote

Moorhead Kennedy, a former U.S. embassy hostage in Iran, on President Mohammed Khatami's call for new contacts with Americans: "They were arguments very familiar to me from my hostage days. Things haven't changed that much. What came through very clearly was their view, they have nothing against Americans. It's simply U.S. government policy that they disagree with in certain key areas." (AP)

# Unabomber Suspect Delays Trial Again

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SACRAMENTO, California —

Theodore Kaczynski, the Unabomber suspect accused of a string of bombings that killed three people, again disrupted the opening of his trial as he proposed Thursday to serve as his own attorney.

Mr. Kaczynski's request, announced by his defense lawyer, Judy Clarke, followed a week of wrangling over how he would be represented in the case and whether he would be held again as his lawyers and Judge Garland Burrell discussed what the next move should be.

Ms. Clarke said the mental illness

defense planned by the lawyers — over their client's bitter objections — is a "situation that he cannot endure."

Judge Burrell gave lawyers for both sides a brief break to discuss the implications of the request.

Mr. Kaczynski tried twice this week to fire his current legal team.

Judge Burrell called Mr. Kaczynski's request Thursday "disturbing" but did not immediately indicate what he planned to do.

Mr. Kaczynski, 55, has pleaded not guilty in Sacramento to charges that he carried out four of the 16 bombings

attributed to the shadowy figure nicknamed the Unabomber since 1978, killing two local men. If he is convicted, he could face the death penalty.

He delayed Monday's scheduled start of opening statements by bringing up the dispute with his lawyers. But at a hearing Wednesday, Judge Burrell appeared to close the issue by ruling that the defendant should be represented by his current, court-appointed lawyers.

In another development that could further delay the trial, an alternate juror called in sick Thursday.

(Reuters, AP, AP)

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## ASIA/PACIFIC

## Phnom Penh Bans 6 Papers For 'Defaming' Leadership

Reuters

PHNOM PENH — The Cambodian Information Ministry suspended six opposition newspapers Thursday on the grounds that they had defamed the country's leaders and threatened national security.

It instructed the Interior Ministry to seize all copies of the papers on newsstands and banned companies from printing the publications. The papers have recently published stinging attacks on the coup leader in Cambodia, Hun Sen.

The Information Ministry cited one article comparing the Cambodian leader to a dog and others accusing him of sympathizing with Vietnam and seeking to intimidate Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the former co-prime minister, who was deposed in a coup last year.

"Those six newspapers have published false news that curses and defames the leaders of the royal government, curses and defames our national institutions, affects national security and political stability and violates the press law," the secretary of state for information, Khien Kanharith, wrote in a letter to the Interior Ministry.

The Cambodian-language press is known for its strong partisanship and tough attacks on politicians.

Cambodia's press law says newspapers cannot publish articles that threaten national security, and several Cambodian newspapers have recently been suspended under that rule.

In a letter to printing companies, Mr. Khien Kanharith warned that the authorities would punish companies violating the order to halt printing of the six newspapers.

The newspapers that were suspended were Samling Samapheap, Antarakum, Kammit Koun Khmer, Proyouth, Neak Tossu and Kolvoth Angkor.

On Wednesday, Mr. Khien Kanharith dropped a threat to expel Ed Fitzgerald, a Canadian correspondent for the Asia Business News network, who was accused of overly negative reporting. The Information Ministry accused some journalists last month of becoming mouthpieces for extremists and warned reporters to make their articles more balanced.



A Cambodian policeman reading a newspaper while on break Thursday. He had put his AK-47 rifle aside.

## BRIEFLY

### Taiwan Delays Its Plan to Ship Nuclear Waste to North Korea

TAIPEI — Taiwan's Atomic Energy Council said Thursday that Taiwan Power Co. had not dropped a plan to ship nuclear waste to North Korea, but it was delayed by a review to certify the secretive Stalinist state's installations.

"The North Korean nuclear waste project is still undergoing the review process," Chiu Tzu-tsung, director of the government council's Radioactive Administration, said by telephone.

"We are waiting for Taipower to submit documentation to show that North Korea has completed construction of the waste site," he added. "The plan will be carried out after we finish our review."

On Wednesday, the nuclear power news agency NucNet, quoting Taiwan's Atomic Energy Council, said that Taipower had shelved the plan and would propose a new site on Taiwan to store low-level radioactive waste.

Mr. Chiu said he was unaware of the NucNet report but acknowledged recent local media speculation that the plan might be abandoned. (Reuters)

### Nepal Leader Asks for Elections

KATMANDU, Nepal — Prime Minister Surya Bahadur Thapa of Nepal recommended new elections following a threatened no-confidence vote by the Communist opposition.

State radio said Mr. Thapa had asked King Birendra to dissolve Parliament and schedule a date for elections. The Himalayan kingdom's three-month-old centrist gov-

ernment is the fourth since November 1994 elections produced a hung Parliament. Mr. Thapa took office on Oct. 6.

State radio said King Birendra had begun consultations on the political developments and had met Mr. Thapa on Thursday at Pokhara, 200 kilometers west of the capital, Katmandu. (Reuters)

### China Sends Relief to Province

BEIJING — Authorities in China's northwestern Qinghai Province have sent grain, gasoline and diesel fuel to areas where heavy snowfalls have killed livestock and threatened nomadic herders, a local official said Thursday.

The snowstorms affected about 30,000 people in the area, said the official in Yushu city. "Some suffered from snow blindness and frostbite."

Yushu, about 40 kilometers north of the border that separates Qinghai and Tibet, has been hit by 40 snowstorms since September. No deaths have been reported. (Reuters)

### Taliban Denies Massacre Charge

KABUL — The ruling Taliban Islamic movement in Afghanistan said Thursday that its forces were not in the area of a reported massacre of more than 600 civilians in the northeast of the country on Jan. 1 and 2. It said the killings could have been the work of opposition forces.

The opposition alliance accuses retreating Taliban forces of having killed the civilians. Taliban also announced that it had released 28 prisoners of war from the opposition. (Reuters)

## INDONESIA: A Sense of Confusion in Jakarta as Currency and Stocks Plunge Further

Continued from Page 1

to step aside — unusual in a country where politics is marked by deference to authority — Mr. Suharto, a retired army general, is likely to be chosen again by the assembly, which he effectively controls.

They said that in announcing a budget Tuesday that called for increased spending, Mr. Suharto was seeking to minimize social and political unrest before the March presidential elections. The budget was criticized by analysts and officials from the United States and the International Monetary Fund for not

meeting austerity targets agreed to in connection with a \$40 billion standby loan for Indonesia. Analysts also said Mr. Suharto appeared reluctant to subject his family's extensive business interests to the full rigor of IMF-mandated reforms. "His declining health will increase the Suharto family's desire to protect its interests," said David Brown, senior associate at the Asia Pacific Policy Center in Washington. "There are worrying signs of family pressures to reverse reforms and force Finance Minister Mar'ie Muhammad."

Uncertainty over Mr. Suharto's

policies, health and political intentions, and his refusal to heed calls to designate a vice president and successor immediately are contributing to the panic selling of the rupiah and stocks, analysts said.

"We now have a weak president in Indonesia," said Mr. Gale of Political & Economic Risk Consultancy. "And if he stands again, we could very well continue to have one at a time when strong leadership is needed."

"That will be bad news for the economy," he added. "You'll have policy paralysis in the government."

On Wednesday, the Clinton admin-

istration warned Indonesia that it was crucial that it begin complying with the terms of the IMF bailout. Washington thus joined the IMF in sending Mr. Suharto a blunt message: If Indonesia does not fulfill its reform commitments, the money will be cut off.

"We've tried the quiet approach," one official told The New York Times. "Now the message is being sent through the markets."

Within the Clinton administration, a debate has already begun over how to handle Indonesia in coming months. The Times reported. Treasury officials have made clear that unless Indonesia complies with terms of the IMF accord, continuing support would undercut the credibility of other IMF bailouts around the world.

### No Panic in the Government

Keith B. Richburg of the Washington Post reported from Hong Kong:

A Foreign Ministry spokesman said there were no emergency meetings to deal with the crisis, and no sense of panic among government officials. "So far, what I've been hearing are expressions of optimism on the government side, sticking it out and receiving more punches," he said.

"There's no sense of panic, so we'll just keep on watching and see how long these punches will go on," he added.

He said Indonesians had been cushioned from their country's economic collapse because, so far, prices for rice and cooking oil have increased as much as 30 percent. But transportation costs, a key measure, have remained virtually unchanged since the onset of the crisis, with the government still holding down petroleum prices through costly subsidies.

"Most people are blissfully unaware of the real situation," the journalist said.



Shoppers lining up to buy basic foodstuffs in Jakarta on Thursday as rumors of sharp price increases spread through the Indonesian capital after the rupiah lost 16 percent of its value in a single trading day.

## KIM: President-Elect Blames Asian Financial Crisis on Authoritarian Government

Continued from Page 1

economic trade and security. He supported the continued presence of 37,000 American troops to deter aggression from Stalinist North Korea. And Mr. Kim, who is seen as far more moderate toward the North than the current president, Kim Young Sam, said he would move "aggressively" to provide emergency food aid to the North. The president-elect said that his hopes to engage Pyongyang more openly — perhaps even through a meeting with the reclusive North Korean leader, Kim Jong Il — were well known to the North Koreans.

"We are just waiting for their response," he said.

Two days after his 74th birthday, Mr. Kim appeared rested, robust and confident as he discussed the triumph and tragedy of his life, and the severe problems facing the nation he will lead when he is sworn in on Feb. 25. Mr. Kim's house is just 16 kilometers (10 miles) from the tense Demilitarized Zone separating the two Koreas; the highway to his town is lined with a fence topped

with coils of barbed wire to keep North Korean agents from coming ashore from the Han River.

Mr. Kim laughed when he noted the irony that government security agents were stationed at his house, much as they were during his years of house arrest in the 1980s, when he lived in a house in Seoul. Then, they were imprisoning a man condemned as a threat to the nation; now they are guarding a man about to become its chief executive.

"These people are now protecting me, before they were trying to contain me," Mr. Kim said. "The thought of doing this for five years in the Blue House makes me a little uneasy, even embarrassed."

Mr. Kim spoke at length about the financial crisis facing South Korea, contending that the nation needs a thorough reform of government and corporate financial structures that have led the nation to the brink of insolvency.

"In order to rejuvenate the Korean economy, I believe we have to do two things," Mr. Kim said. "The first is to increase our export volume, and the other is to induce foreign investment. We will

be very aggressive on both. Our new administration is going to take all these policies not because of the requirement by the international community or the IMF, but we will take this opportunity to reform our economic system so that we can be competitive in the world economy."

Mr. Kim said he believed the problem in South Korea in the past had been a lack of the transparency in government and finance that comes in a fully functioning democracy. The Asian crisis that has swept from Indonesia and Thailand and Malaysia to South Korea, and now threatens Japan, is a failure to install a vibrant democracy to keep governments and markets accountable, he said.

"If we had true democracy in Korea, then the collusive intimacy between business and government and corruption would not have been as great here. And the wealth would not have been allocated to only a few people. Usually the dictatorship or authoritarian style of government lies to people. We've been told we are very wealthy, and we have been told to spend dollars abroad because we had too many of them. We had approximately \$40 billion of deficit

when President Kim Young Sam came in, and now we have \$150 billion of deficit. So basically we've been living well off the loans that we've been given, the people have been deceived, and that's why we have this financial crisis."

The ultimate solution to South Korea's problems, Mr. Kim said, was increased investment, especially by foreigners. He said Seoul was moving quickly toward removing limits on foreign ownership of stocks and real estate, as well as upgrading South Korea's murky accounting practices, which make it virtually impossible to assess the financial health of a company — or the government.

"We want to induce investment by making foreign investors feel they have no problems here," Mr. Kim said.

During the election campaign, Mr. Kim alarmed foreign investors and analysts by suggesting that Seoul should renegotiate the IMF deal. On Thursday, he acknowledged that he initially did not "understand the full depth" of the financial crisis, and he blamed President Kim for misleading him and the South Korean people.

## U.S. Newsmen Quits Seoul Jail

But Libel Charge Keeps Korean-American in Country

The Associated Press

SEOUL — A Korean-American journalist imprisoned three weeks ago on libel charges was released Thursday pending trial.

Richard Choi, 49, a newsmen for Los Angeles-based KBLA-AM, or Radio Korea, was set free shortly after midnight but must remain in the country until the case is resolved, Seoul court officials said.

Violators of South Korea's libel laws can face up to five years in prison.

Mr. Choi was arrested four days after he reported from Seoul on Dec. 15 that the Hankook Ilbo-Korea Times newspaper group, which runs an FM radio station in Los Angeles that competes with Mr. Choi's station, was in financial trouble and might be merged with the Hyundai group.

Hankook filed a libel lawsuit against Mr. Choi, accusing him of malicious slander by trying to cripple the news-

paper during a nationwide financial crisis and causing the newspaper serious financial problems due to the withdrawal of advertising.

Hankook welcomed Mr. Choi's release but said it had no plan to drop the criminal charges it has filed against him.

"We also want to make sure that it's a mere criminal case, not a human-rights issue as being claimed by Radio Korea," said Lee Sang Suk, a spokesman for Hankook Ilbo.

Mr. Lee said his newspaper was considering filing a separate civil suit seeking financial compensation.

As one of the conditions of his release, Mr. Choi cannot leave South Korea until his case has been closed. No date has been set for his trial.

Mr. Choi's wife, Choi Young Yun, said, "All his travel documents, including his passport, have been seized by immigration officials. He can't leave without court permission."

## INTERNATIONAL

## Defense of Virginity Tests Enrages Turkish Women

By Stephen Kinzer

New York Times Service

ISTANBUL — Outraged Turkish feminists are demanding the resignation of the cabinet minister in charge of women's affairs after she defended the traditional practice of subjecting women to virginity tests.

In rural areas and urban neighborhoods populated by migrants from the countryside, parents and future husbands often take young women to be tested, either because of an impending marriage or sometimes merely if they are suspected of sexual activity.

The minister, Islay Saygin, has often seemed proud of her anti-feminist stance, asserting at various times that "women don't want to take part in politics" and that "three women don't equal one man."

Her appointment to Prime Minister Mesut Yilmaz's cabinet in June provoked some protests, but the campaign for her removal began in earnest after the publication last week of an interview she gave to an Istanbul newspaper.

Asked what she thought of virginity testing, she replied: "It doesn't bother me. I do whatever Turkish tradition and customs require of the family."

"Educating children is the duty of the father and mother," she asserted. "The state is the father."

Reminded that some young women have committed suicide rather than face the results of virginity tests, Ms. Saygin said: "Girls who committed suicide because they were forced to take a virginity test would have committed suicide anyway. I don't think this is really important. Five or three girls, it doesn't matter."

These and other comments infuriated feminists, many of whom have been grumbling about Ms. Saygin since her appointment.

"To be able to say that three or five women might die is not something out of the blue," said Halime Guner, co-founder of a women's group called Flying Broom. "She has always been like that."

Even one of Ms. Saygin's senior aides, Selma Acuner, disavowed her comments. "Virginity tests are a violation of individual rights," she said. "Reactions are pouring in to our ministry."

The case may prove a boost to the small but growing women's movement in Turkey. It has brought feminist groups together with more mainstream orga-

nizations such as the Republican Women's Association, which is dedicated to promoting the sexual equality that Mustafa Kemal Ataturk, founder of the Turkish Republic, decreed in the 1920s.

"Women are not reluctant to participate in politics," said the association chairman, Senal Saruhan, after Ms. Saygin's interview was published. "They have been treated as second-class citizens."

Turkish law makes no reference to the practice of virginity tests, but many parents consider them reasonable.

"Sometimes headmasters of schools bring girls in for tests, and if it is found that the girls are not virgins, they can be expelled," said Sahika Yuksel, an Istanbul doctor who is among those calling for Ms. Saygin's resignation.

"Police often bring women in for tests if they are found in a flirtatious or romantic situation," she said. "If they are not virgins they can be charged with practicing prostitution or brought back to their families, where they often face serious problems."

## BRIEFLY

### Netanyahu Urges United Peace Effort

JERUSALEM — Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu scrambled to defuse tensions with Washington and his defense chief Thursday, urging unruly coalition partners not to stand still on Middle East peace.

Throwing down a challenge apparently aimed at hard-liners opposed to ceding West Bank land to the Palestinians, he said, "If you believe what I believe, you'll join me, and if you don't, you'll part with me."

Mr. Netanyahu spoke during a Middle East visit by the U.S. special envoy, Dennis Ross, and in the face of a threat by Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, a relative moderate, to quit unless Mr. Netanyahu picked up the pace of peacemaking with Palestinians. (Reuters)

### Angola Takes Over Diamond Region

LUANDA, Angola — The government said Thursday it was in full control of diamond-mining areas in a rich northern valley from which the former rebel UNITA movement had withdrawn.

"The government is now in complete control of all the mines in the Cuango Valley," Higinio Carneiro, deputy territorial administration minister, said. "We took over the last one on December 31."

Western diplomats confirmed that UNITA, the National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, had withdrawn from its Cuango mines, which produce some of the country's best gems.

They said the movement, which is now in formal parliamentary opposition to the government, had announced this on its radio station in early January. (Reuters)

### Chile House Rejects Pinochet as Senator

SANTIAGO — Chile's lower house of Congress has passed a non-binding resolution rejecting General Augusto Pinochet's plan to step into a Senate seat that he is constitutionally allowed to keep for life.

In a 56-to-26 vote Wednesday on the largely symbolic resolution, the lawmakers expressed their "rejection and repudiation" of the plan.

The declaration, opposed by rightist legislators, said General Pinochet's presence in the Senate "does not contribute to reconciliation among Chileans nor to the encounter among civilians and military."

The constitution, written during General Pinochet's 1973-90 term in power, allows him to become a senator for life after stepping down as army commander, expected in the next few weeks. He has said he will take up the seat. (AP)







## EDITORIALS/OPINION

## Herald Tribune

PUBLISHED WITH THE NEW YORK TIMES AND THE WASHINGTON POST

## Iran and America

Americans accustomed to Iranian clerics fulminating against the United States may have been pleasantly surprised to encounter Mohammad Khatami on CNN Wednesday evening. The new president spoke admiringly of American civilization, sprinkling his comments with respectful references to the Pilgrims and Abraham Lincoln. He called for cultural and education exchanges between Iran and America. But for all the friendly gestures, the hard edge of Iran's hostility to America was still present. By the end of Mr. Khatami's interview, with Christiane Amanpour, it was clear that there would be no quick healing of the rift between Tehran and Washington.

Changing the tone of Iranian rhetoric about the United States is itself an achievement, and Mr. Khatami may have gone as far as he could for now, given the resistance of Iran's supreme leader, Ayatollah Khamenei, to better relations with Washington. Mr. Khatami in the interview was the first Iranian leader since the 1979 revolution to offer even a hint of remorse over the seizure of American hostages then. But he badly miscalculated in thinking that

the American people do not share their government's grave misgivings about Iranian policies and behavior.

Mr. Khatami's attack on the American government as the cause of poverty and oppression around the world was crude and rigidly ideological. His complaints about American policy toward Iran were simplistic, although not entirely without merit on the question of Washington's blind support for the corrupt regime of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi. His remarks seemed to leave little room for a dialogue with the Clinton administration about such matters as Iranian support for terrorism, opposition to the Middle East peace effort and efforts to develop nuclear weapons. His characterization of the Israeli government as a "racist, terrorist regime" was offensive.

The years of enmity between Washington and Tehran should end. The hostility no longer serves the interest of either nation. But it cannot be eliminated, or even productively addressed, if Mr. Khatami will not countenance direct discussions with the American government.

—THE NEW YORK TIMES.

## The Nichols Sentence

How do you sentence a man convicted of conspiring to commit the worst act of domestic terrorism in American history yet acquitted of the act itself, convicted of manslaughter in the deaths that it caused but acquitted of murder for those same deaths? It is no great surprise that the jury in the trial of Terry L. Nichols, having rendered a verdict this internally inconsistent, has deadlocked on whether Mr. Nichols deserves death.

On one level, the death penalty is the obvious sentence; it seems outrageous, after all, to execute someone for a street murder but to let live a man who plotted to blow up a building where 168 innocents would die.

On the other hand, the jury had its reasons for distinguishing Mr. Nichols's crime from that of Timothy McVeigh, who was sentenced to death, and that distinction should, perhaps, be translated into a less severe punishment.

An internally inconsistent verdict is not necessarily illegitimate. Juries do not act with a single mind. There are compromises between jurors who believe one thing and those who believe another. Verdicts represent the judgment that 12 independent processors of the same information can all live with.

In Mr. Nichols's case, some jurors thought that he played only a small role in the bombing, while others thought his part much larger. Jurors were concerned about the possible existence of the elusive John Doe No. 2 and about perceived inadequacies in the government's investigation.

## Playing Dangerously

Death during recreation is nearly always accidental, and an accidental death is, by definition, a preventable death. The skiing accidents that killed Michael Kennedy and Sonny Bono would never have happened, or so it is easy to say after the fact. If Mr. Kennedy had not been playing football and Mr. Bono had stayed out of the trees.

In the aftermath, the risks seem unacceptable. But in the moments before both accidents, the risks must have seemed perfectly reasonable to both men. They did not buy lift tickets in the hopes of dying with death. Few skiers do. Nor did Anatoli Boukreev, the Russian mountaineer who died in an avalanche several weeks ago, begin his ascent of Annapurna intending to flirt with extinction.

But the chance of serious injury and death is always there, especially as the popularity of extreme sports increases. That is why nearly every true sophisticate of an inherently risky sport — anything from surfing to mountaineering — tries to offset risk with preparation. The higher the degree of conditioning, experience and mental discipline an athlete enjoys, the higher the degree of risk he can accept.

The point is not usually to pursue risk per se, but to pursue a level of physical and mental challenge that increases even as the risks attending failure increase, too. Danger intensifies concentration, but concentration is nearly always a means of diminishing danger. That is the simple equilibrium of every hazardous sport.

## Other Comment

## Algerian Humiliation

Among all the Arabs who suffered humiliation under the Ottoman, British and French empires, Algerians have felt the most definitively humiliated of all. But today one is more humiliated in Algeria, than ever. Precisely because there was a grand opportunity to emerge from humiliation with independence, sacrifices, oil, gas, trained elites, a rebelling people and marvelous youth. Rarely, very rarely, has a country wasted so many chances so radically and so quickly.

—Jean Daniel, commenting in *Le Nouvel Observateur* (Paris).

## Algeria Cannot Be Left Alone With Its Horrors

By Flora Lewis

PARIS — The atrocious butcheries in Algeria have reached a dramatic new scale just as public opinion in the West is turning from ignorance to apathy to outrage. There is a comparison with Bosnia in the sense that it took a year or more for people elsewhere to realize the horror and then begin demanding with increasing insistence that their governments "do something."

European governments, and to a somewhat lesser extent the U.S. government, are facing that kind of public pressure now. They recognize that they can no longer pretend not to notice. But so far they cannot think of what to do beyond express repugnance, and talk to each other about it.

There is lots of talk going on. Algeria is on the agenda of practically every European Union meeting, and Washington is checking the European capitals. Germany's foreign minister, Klaus Kinkel, has proposed the dispatch of an EU special mission to look into the situation and see what might be done to help suppress the terrorism and aid the victims.

The Algerian government has not yet officially responded, but it has rejected all previous suggestions as intolerable interference.

It denies the scope of the killings despite documented reports in the Algerian media, whose journalists have shown awesome courage at the real risk of their own lives, and claims that it is getting the situation "under control."

There can be no question of sending in outside force so long as the Algerian government is recognized as legitimate and refuses any kind of intervention or mediation. In any event, what would foreign troops or advisers do? What would be their mission? There is no useful answer.

Does this mean that nothing can be done except gasp in dismay, issue statements and perhaps pass resolutions? People in Algeria feel abandoned. They can't believe that no one will help to stop such crimes against humanity, but they don't know where to appeal.

The Algerian government angrily denounced as "unacceptable" a formal French statement condemning these "acts of barbaric savagery" and noting the "legitimate right of the Algerian population to be protected."

France, which has been generally supportive of the government up to now and kept a low profile on the issue

despite its special importance to people here, did not specify who is to blame.

The role of the government and army has been murky. There are rumors that sometimes they have been responsible for crimes in order to rally the disaffected population against Islamic extremists fighting for power. There have been no proofs. But it has been widely noticed that even when there have been military installations quite nearby and the massacres go on for hours, no one has come to the defense of the victims.

It is a poignant example of the dilemma of the law of nations, the right of unquestioned sovereignty versus the duty to provide the most basic human right, the right not to be murdered.

So it is essential to find a way to put some pressure on the Algerian government. A coalition of important countries — and it must be coordinated — should tell the government that if it is unable to protect its people, they will be sympathetic to a request for help. And if it is unwilling, they can no longer provide international support through such institutions as the World Bank and credit arrangements.

This is not sanctions, which almost surely could not be organized and would disrupt the world oil market beyond what anybody is ready to accept

as well as put the main burden of punishment on the suffering population.

Is it blackmail? Yes, and well justified, leaving it up to Algeria how much it wants to be inconvenienced and isolated. The benefits of full participation in the international community require the observation of certain minimum human standards.

It would be of great help if Islamic authorities, voices of the religious community as well as of governments, spoke loudly to denounce the murders as violations of the meaning of Islam.

Surprisingly, the Iranian government, which Algeria has held responsible for supporting the terrorists, has openly called for measures by the United Nations and the Organization of the Islamic Conference to "prevent such inhuman acts."

Western governments can quietly encourage friendly Arab states to join the chorus of opprobrium.

Something does have to be done. It is not easy, because the familiar tools do not work. It takes creative diplomacy to find the effective pressure points. Just to give up and weep in despair helps no one. This is what the concept of international community is supposed to be about.

Flora Lewis.

## Japan: The Wait for Economic Reform May Be Long

By Tom Plate

LOS ANGELES — If 1997 was the year of China, with the historic takeover of Hong Kong, coronation of a new leader and summit with America, 1998 should prove the year of Japan, for better or for worse.

Probably for worse. It would be a timely moment indeed for long overdue changes from the world's second-largest economy, but the so-called too-big-to-fail nation doesn't look ready to make many. It could be a long year for everyone.

No one is saying it publicly, but Japan is in danger of becoming a regional menace. Its head-in-the-sand policy of seeking to escape further recession by peddling its own goods while protecting its markets and keeping its policy mind closed raises serious ethical questions about the role of this world power in Asia.

Prime Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto continues to promul-

gate astonishing policies. Last spring his government virtually doubled the sales tax, further suppressing the inclination to spend. That threw other exporting Asian nations into renewed despair that Japan will ever be the consuming savior of their cheap manufacturing industries.

How much will America and Europe by themselves be able to import? Only a domestically stimulated Japanese economy with markets open to imports can reinvigorate Asia's out-of-balance regional economy.

But except for the planned "big bang" reforms designed to open domestic financial businesses to foreign investment and involvement, reform isn't in the Japanese air; denial is.

"There is absolutely no sign," writes the respected Japanese newspaper columnist

ing News, "that Hashimoto, the ruling party, the bureaucracy, banks and other businesses behind them might take the strong but curative medicine."

Warns a recent report from the U.S.-Japan 21st Century Committee, co-chaired by former prime minister, Kiichi Miyazawa: "The first task for Japan, which is 20 years behind the global trend toward liberalization, is to reform its economic structure and the social structure which supports it. It must achieve a scale and speed of reform that will make up for 20 years' delay."

Japan is the delinquent prisoner of its own spectacular sell-to-foreigners/buy-our-own formula. Its establishment seems determined to preserve as much of its insular system as possible.

What does the world want Japan to do? "Backs to the wall,

we say, the Japanese have no choice but to free their economy, deregulate their markets, privatize everything and in general get with the program we call globalization," writes Patrick Smith in the *Washington Quarterly*.

Don't hold your breath, though, advises this author of the provocative new book "Japan: A Reinterpretation": "We seem to think we are watching a short, while in my view we are in for a very long movie."

Mr. Hashimoto's policies are not even working for Japan, much less its Asian neighbors. Last year the yen depreciated by about 12 percent, and overall the Japanese stock market declined by 21 percent.

In December, reacting to all the criticism, Mr. Hashimoto proffered a relatively piddling tax cut in an ineffectual effort to compensate for the damaging April blunder. That is not nearly

enough to stimulate the domestic spending and consumption that would soak up goods from places like Indonesia and Thailand, not to mention America.

If the economy does not improve and Mr. Hashimoto stays on, you can anticipate stormy Japanese-U.S. relations. As the U.S.-Japanese trade imbalance widens even more when Japan seeks to climb out of its recession by exporting goods made cheaper by the yen's devaluation, U.S. politicians will start bashing Japan again.

That might prompt the Japanese public to rally around Mr. Hashimoto if he predictably lashes back.

If Japan continues on its present course, it will have only itself to blame if it drags the region's economy onto a continued downward slide, thus triggering worldwide retrenchment and recession.

Los Angeles Times.

## People Have Rights, but They Also Have Responsibilities

By William Pfaff

PARIS — The 50th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights occurs next December.

That declaration reiterated, in the shocked aftermath of the Second World War, what earlier was affirmed in the American Declaration of Independence in 1776, in the Bill of Rights of the U.S. Constitution, and in the French Constituent Assembly's Declaration, in 1789, of the Rights of Man and Citizen. All say that humans possess rights, which civilization must respect.

This argument rests on the notion of "natural" law, developed in the Middle Ages and reaffirmed in the 18th century Scottish and French enlightenment. The existence of natural law was held to imply the existence of rights that people possess by virtue of what they are, and because of their natural relationship to one another in society.

A right is "that which is morally just or due." This presupposes agreement about what is just and moral. An affirmation of human rights is a statement about the nature of society. In the case of the UN declaration, the statement was essentially Western in origin and philosophy.

The UN declaration has been criticized as hypocrisy, since many of the governments voting for it in 1948 neither respected nor intended to respect any claims by their citizens which limited their power. But even hypocrisy has its uses, and the universal declaration has significantly influenced events since 1948 by making the defense of human rights an issue in international relations.

Other criticisms have come from Asia, where it is said that the Western concept of human

rights is excessively individualistic and neglects community solidarity. Western commentators have replied by saying that Asian criticisms of these Western ideas are often equally hypocritical, serving simply to defend arbitrary government.

There is nonetheless a legitimate argument which says that the Western emphasis on individual rights can be socially destructive and neglects the claims of society and community.

By affirming an individual "right," one makes a claim on society that is dissociated from responsibility. We say: You must grant me my pursuit of happiness. However, my pursuit of happiness may prove to be at your expense. My freedom of enterprise may ruin you.

The conventional response in the West is that the rights of one

should stop when they infringe the rights of another. But this reflects a Western, adversarial conception of justice. In practice, it usually means that if you infringe my rights I'll sue you.

A group of 24 former chiefs of state or government, including former prime ministers of Thailand, Singapore, South Korea and Japan, and ex-presidents or prime ministers from the United States, Canada, France, Brazil and other countries, have now published a draft Universal Declaration of Human Responsibilities.

Their chairman is former German Chancellor Helmut Schmidt. They propose that their declaration of responsibilities be adopted by the UN General Assembly on the anniversary of the human rights declaration in December.

Their document begins by saying that "the exclusive insistence on rights can result in conflict, division and endless dispute, and the neglect of human responsibilities can lead to lawlessness and chaos."

Also, "the rule of law and the promotion of human rights depend on the readiness of men and women to act justly."

The fundamental principle affirmed is that people must be treated humanely. "What you do not wish to be done to yourself do not do to others."

The declaration states that every person "is infinitely precious and must be protected unconditionally." And that disputes should be resolved without violence. Every person

has an obligation to honesty and to truth in speech and action.

People have a responsibility "to develop their talents through diligent endeavor," it says. "They should have equal access to education and meaningful work. All property and wealth must be used responsibly in accordance with justice and for the advancement of the human race."

"Economic and political power must not be handed as an instrument of domination, but in the service of economic justice and of the social order."

The most significant aspect of this Declaration of Human Responsibilities, in today's Western intellectual climate, is its unqualified affirmation of the existence of right and wrong. "No person, no group or organization, no state, no army or police stands above good and evil; all are subject to ethical standards. Everyone has a responsibility to promote good and to avoid evil in all things."

That takes this declaration out of the realm of platitudes. It connects it to the assumption fundamental to the existence of the United Nations itself, as well as to international law and the concept of human rights, that there is indeed a "natural" law which is connected to the nature of man, and that we owe it respect.

That also makes it a controversial document. It will be important to see what happens to it at the United Nations.

International Herald Tribune.  
Los Angeles Times Syndicate.

## Africa: Keys to the Renaissance

By F. W. de Klerk

JOHANNESBURG — Africa is falling further behind, not only behind the world as a whole but behind other developing regions as well.

From 1980 to 1992, GNP in sub-Saharan Africa declined by an average of 0.8 percent per year. One of the great challenges of the future will be to reverse this trend and to ensure that the people of our continent catch up with the rest of humanity as fast as they can.

The alternative — the continuing marginalization of Africa — is simply not an acceptable option. In a shrinking world, the problems of one region will inevitably become the problems of other regions and, ultimately, of the whole world.

Diseases do not observe international boundaries. Instability in one region can lead to instability in others. Damage to the ecology in a region as large as Africa would harm global ecology.

Most important, the populations of developed societies will not permit their governments to stand idly by while hundreds of millions of people continue to live in misery and conflict. The key may be found in the following steps.

Africa requires stable democratic governments. Ways must be found to end the cycle of conflict that continues to scourge too many countries.

Since the Egyptian revolution of 1952, there have been 78 violent or nonconstitutional changes of government in 31 African countries. Conflicts waged throughout the continent have

caused the deaths of millions and brought about wide-scale destruction and devastation.

Fortunately, prospects for the future seem brighter. Only a handful of African countries had functioning multiparty systems before 1990. From 1990 to 1995, multiparty elections were held in 28 additional states.

Africa needs the right social and economic policies. Governments are moving away from the centralized socialist systems that shackled their potential for growth. Some countries, like Botswana and Mauritius, are proving that it is possible to achieve consistently high economic growth.

This will help Africa to address another pressing challenge, high population growth. From 1990 to 2000, it is estimated, Africa's population will grow by 2.9 percent per year, compared with 1.7 percent worldwide.

Africa needs help. African countries can be forgiven for sometimes thinking that the cards are stacked against them in the game of economic globalization. They have to labor under the burden of relatively enormous foreign debts, accumulated over the years by irresponsible governments.

In 1992, sub-Saharan Africa's external debt amounted to almost 70 percent of its collective GNP, compared with only 37.6 percent for the rest of the developing world.

In addition, prices for many

of Africa's primary exports have stagnated or declined since 1980. These products include maize, cotton, cocoa, coffee, sugar, copper and bauxite.

The international community should find ways to help Africa help itself. Steps could include allowing African exports to enter international markets on the most favorable terms. Action should be taken to add value to primary exports before they leave Africa. Something should also be done to alleviate the debt burden.

Africa needs a clear and practical development plan. The international community, and particularly the former colonial powers, should help Africa to develop a plan incorporating the steps I have just mentioned. Consideration should be given to key countries in each of the main regions as development partners.

These countries — such as South Africa in the southern region — should receive special attention in order to ensure that they become dynamic locomotives for growth in their respective regions. In this way, networks of development and stability could be established throughout the continent.

By these steps, we will be able to avoid the marginalization of Africa and open the way to what South Africa's deputy president, Thabo Mbeki, has called "the African Renaissance."

Former President de Klerk contributed this comment to *Forum 2000* (Los Angeles Times Syndicate).

## IN OUR PAGES: 100, 75 AND 50 YEARS AGO

## 1898: U.S. in Cuba

MADRID — An article written by Senor Castelar on President McKinley's Message to Congress has excited much comment. He asserts that the intervention of the United States in Cuba would be a crime analogous to the partition of Poland.

Such intervention would equip the United States to build a formidable fleet, to increase considerably their budget and to create an enormous army. They would end by alienating the whole of Latin America, which ought not to tolerate the encroachments of North America.

## 1923: German Women

BERLIN — Miss Jane Burry has discarded her knickerbockers. She has locked them in a closet on the fourth floor of an obscure pension and will appear hereafter in Berlin in a fur coat, Parisian hat and frock and mod-

est woollen stockings. After shocking London and Paris, Berlin proved too much for her, and she has discarded the male attire. Miss Burry is disappointed to find so little "progress" among the women of Germany, and she says: "No matter how intelligent they are, they occupy the same relative position to man — inferiority."

## 1948: Reds Ousted

RIO DE JANEIRO — The Chamber of Deputies approved a bill ousting all Communist legislators throughout Brazil. The Communist party was outlawed last May and Brazil broke diplomatic relations with Russia in October. The Communist leader Mauricio Grabois said: "This is the final act of treason against democracy." Police in front of the chamber suppressed Communist manifestations, arresting more than a dozen persons.

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## DINING

### A Bistro That Is A Bargain Warm Comfort In Cold Weather

By Patricia Wells  
International Herald Tribune

**P**ARIS — Paris diners owe a fine debt of gratitude to chef Jean-Pierre Vigato. Not only has he wooed us for years with his steady, personalized form of modern cooking at his Michelin two-star restaurant Apicium, but he has influenced a good number of fine, young chefs.

The newest is Francis Leveque, who for the past few months has been playing to a packed dining room at the small bistro-style restaurant Dame Jeanne, not far from the Bastille. Here, in a colorful, southern-inspired decor of bold ochers and sunburst reds, scarlet linen napkins and pristine white china, he offers a model form of updated bistro fare at rock-bottom prices.

There's a deluge of "bargain" restaurants in Paris today. But weeding out those worth trying once from those worth adding to your permanent address book is another matter.

Dame Jeanne's current menu offers some soothing, cold-weather favorites, such as falling-off-the-bone braised lamb shanks, known as *souris d'agneau* or *haut de gigot*. Or, try the well-seasoned, original *poitrine de veau*, veal breast that had been stuffed with herbs, rolled and roasted to perfection. Served in thick slices and bathed in an even-tempered sauce, the steaming veal was surrounded by a pool of fine mashed potatoes.

For starters, there's a pretty as well as delicious terrine of tender beef cheeks (they sound better in French, as *joues de boeuf*) and verdant leeks. The terrine is cut in a thick slice, drizzled with a properly vinegary dressing, and served with a small, refreshing salad of *mesclun*, fresh mixed greens. Leveque's starter *risotto* — this one flavored with assorted wild mushrooms — was distinctly French and thoroughly delicious. Rather than the creamy, unified *al dente* mass of the Italian version, this risotto was thinner, flavored with plenty of cooking juices, and no less appealing.

#### JUST A SLIGHT DOWNSIDE

Alas, service in the two small dining rooms is typical of the laid-back Bastille neighborhood. No one there ever seems to be in a hurry. Even wine doesn't come until your first course is on the table. And since Leveque is alone in the kitchen, the wait can seem interminable.

When the wine does arrive, it can be delicious. By all means sample the bargain-priced 120-franc (\$20) bottle of 1995 Beaujolais Julienas Cotes du Beaujolais, from the winemaker Paul Spray, Domaine de la Cave Lamartine. To my palate, it is an ideal rendering of a fine Beaujolais: not overly fruity, but fun and vigorous, and just serious enough to inhibit you from dancing out the door.

Dame Jeanne, 60 Rue de Charonne, Paris 11; tel: 01-47-00-37-40; fax: 01-47-00-37-45. Closed Saturday lunch and all day Sunday. Credit card: Visa. MasterCard. Menus at 110, 128 and 168 francs, including service but not wine.



David Susskind

## Nagano: Go for the Games or Just for Luck

### Amid the Sports and Spas, a Temple With a Mysterious, Unseen Buddha



Zenkoji Temple houses a Buddha that has not been seen for 305 years.

By Nicholas D. Kristof  
New York Times Service

**N**AGANO, Japan — When athletes and spectators pour, as they soon will, into the city of Nagano, the host of the Olympic Winter Games, they will encounter snowy mountain ranges, a live volcano and the chance to experience death and rebirth — symbolically — in one of Japan's greatest Buddhist temples. The temple is supposed to bring a lifetime of good luck, and its underground vault is the only cultural site in Japan that my children count as a rival in significance to Tokyo Disneyland.

Visitors to Nagano will see all this and more, but one of them, not even the Japanese Emperor himself, will be allowed a glimpse of Nagano's greatest prize. That is a gilded bronze statue of Buddha with two attendants, said to have arrived in Japan in 552 from Korea as part of the first mission to carry Buddhism to Japan. It is therefore one of the oldest Buddhist statues in Japan, and, according to legend, is invested with miraculous powers — one of which is to blind anyone who lays eyes on it. That explains why it has been kept hidden away, presumably unseco for the last 305 years.

**A MYSTICAL PLACE** The temple where the statue is housed, Zenkoji, attracts pilgrims from all over Japan. One of the country's great tourist sites it underscores Nagano's role as a special kind of Olympic city: not just a ski resort, but also an ancient and mystical spot with attractions that go far beyond the Olympic competition.

Still, when the Games open on Feb. 7, they will put Nagano on the global map. More important, the Japanese government has invested — probably foolishly, given the staggering cost — in a new bullet train that has made the area far more accessible. Particularly for visitors on the main Tokyo-to-Kyoto circuit, Nagano offers a refreshing detour into the heart of the country and a glimpse into the nation's soul. The Olympics will perhaps not be the best time to explore the city, for it will be crowded and traffic will be a snarl, but Nagano will be there before and after the Games — and as a result of the preparations, there are more English signs than ever. Americans will find it easier to make their way into the right dressing room for the public baths.

Nagano Prefecture is a sprawling, mountainous region, with about 2.1 million inhabitants. Famed for its apples, delicious and crunchy and sometimes the size of soccer balls, Nagano is a playground of ski resorts and hot springs.

When friends were visiting in November, my wife and I took them and our herd of children — three of ours, two of theirs — on a day trip to Nagano, for it offers a flavor of traditional Japan in a kid-friendly package. We began our visit in the prefectural capital, also named Nagano, a city of 360,000 with its share of glass-and-steel office towers. Yet somehow Nagano City manages to preserve the aura of a country town, perhaps because of the mountains that surround and humble it, or perhaps because of the refreshing chill in the air when one steps off the train from Tokyo.

After emerging from the train station, it is a one-mile walk to Zenkoji, the temple that is home to the miraculous statue. The avenue is lined with shops offering Nagano apples and other souvenirs, and it bustles with pilgrims from all over Japan, for legend has it that a visit to Zenkoji will bring salvation.

Zenkoji is said to have been built in the seventh century, but it has burned down many times. The current structure, a massive hall that is one of the biggest wooden buildings in Japan, dates from 1707. Dark brown and edged with gold, it looms over the neighborhood and is approached through two huge gates that lead a solemnity to the entire area.

Yet inside the gates, the atmosphere

is a hit like a carnival. Thousands of pigeons hustle about, and a grandmother tries to show a suspicious toddler how to feed the birds. He looks horrified as the pigeons whirl around him, and when one lands on his shoulder he begins to wail. Other visitors surround a huge cauldron from which smoke billows, waving the smoke into their faces. The smoke is supposed to be good luck, so the kids in our group frantically waved some into their faces. I tried to accept this secondary smoke as spiritual.

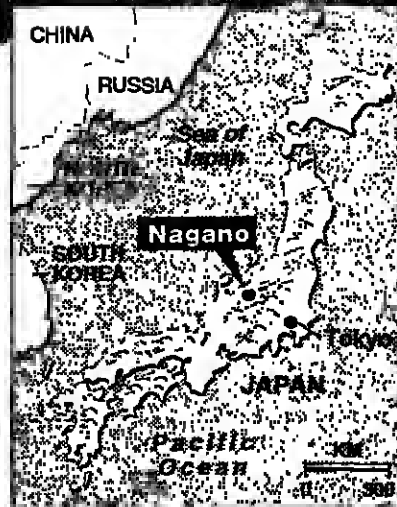
The interior of Zenkoji is dim and crowded, and it takes a moment to adjust to the darkness. Ohinmuru-san, a life-size gold-painted wooden statue of a disciple of Buddha, sits in a lotus position near the entrance, and a stream of visitors reaches out to touch his hand, ear or face for good luck. Indeed, such groping has gradually worn away poor Ohinmuru-san's face, but still he dignifies as a faceless sculpture can muster.

The real adventure begins in the back of the main hall. It involves going downstairs into the basement, and stumbling along a pitch-black pathway while trying to touch a "key of paradise" that is hidden in the wall and is said to bring salvation to those who touch it. The pathway is not just dark, it is absolutely black — I literally could not see my hand an inch in front of my eyes — so we held on to one another as the children advised us loudly and nervously that they weren't the least bit scared. We reassured Gregory, 5, and Geoffrey, 3, that if they just kept going a bit farther, they would reach the "key of paradise," and win a lifetime of good luck. I gave them the crucial hint that the key is on the right-hand side, about waist-high. With that they easily found it, shrieked exultantly, and rubbed vigorously.

A temple official explained that the "key of paradise" is directly below the famous statue that has been hidden for the last three centuries. The darkness represents your death, allowing you to be reborn as a new person.

**R**EADY for an earthly meal upon emerging, we found the area around Zenkoji teeming with restaurants featuring one of Nagano's best-known specialties, *soba* noodles. *Soba*, made of buckwheat, is one of my favorite Japanese foods; it is also among the cheapest. A basic *soba* (cold noodles dipped in sauce) is refreshing and costs only about \$5; *tororo soba* (hot or cold noodles served in broth and accompanied by a thick sauce of grated yam) is just a dollar or two more.

The place to stay in Nagano is not a Western hotel but a Japanese inn, ideally one of those clustered around hot springs in the less populated parts of the prefecture. One of the most famous springs is Jigokudani, or Hell Valley. Another is Seni Onsen, where the spring is inside a natural cave. I have been planning for a couple of years to go to Seni Onsen, but



whenever I have had time the inn has been full. Most recently, I was told it was booked for about the next seven months — at a rate of \$750 a night for my family of five in one room.

Apart from Zenkoji, the most interesting site in the prefecture also is underground, but it conjures up grim memories for Japanese and so does not get the attention it should. It is the Matsushiro Headquarters network of tunnels that the Imperial Army built in the waning months of World War II as a refuge for the emperor, the army and the government. The plan was to move the country's leaders to a safe haven underneath a mountain, where the government could continue to operate.

#### BIG ENOUGH TO DRIVE IN

The tunnels are big enough to drive a car through, and they extend for around seven miles through hard rock. But unclear weapons would have infected even these tunnels with deadly radioactivity, and the blasting finally stopped on Aug. 15, 1945, the day of Japan's surrender. The caves were 75 percent complete.

We entered through an old air shaft, descending a set of stairs carved in the rock, where a series of electric lights provides adequate but eerie illumination. Most of the tunnels are closed to visitors, but even so we could hike for the better part of a mile down a series of shafts.

The Imperial Army forced thousands of Korean laborers and nearby Japanese residents to build the tunnels, and 300 to 1,000 people died in the process. Most of the dead were Koreans who died in cave-ins or explosions or else succumbed to malnutrition, disease or suicide. Others were shot for trying to escape or for protesting the brutal around-the-clock working conditions.

In a self-lacerating plaque at the entrance, the local authorities have written: "The historical remains of the Matsushiro Headquarters call attention to the Japanese invasion of other Asian countries, as seen in World War II and the colonization of Korea. The remains forever remind us of the sins we committed during the war period."



Museum at the Imperial Army's World War II tunnels at Matsushiro.

By Stephanie Strom  
New York Times Service

**N**AGANO, Japan — Getting around Nagano, Japan, using anything other than feet these days takes about twice as much time as normal — at least. To be sure, congestion is nothing new to Nagano, the funnel through which most weekend skiers pass on their way to the Japan Alps, the breathtakingly beautiful mountains that will be home to the 1998 Olympic Winter Games Feb. 7-22.

But the current congestion, caused by lumbering tractors and tottering cranes, is a sign that — unlike Atlanta — Nagano and the five outlying villages where the events will take place will be prepared for the thousands of athletes, coaches and Olympic officials and more than a million spectators. This, after all, is Japan, where repairmen schedule — and keep — appointments at specific times, not in half-day increments.

At least half the reason this city of 360,000 wanted the Olympic Games was the public speeding that comes with them, and it has not been disappointed. Nagano kicked in about \$1 billion, and the Japanese government has spent about \$1.3 billion in public works projects, including new Shinkansen (bullet train) service that sharply reduces the time for the trip from Tokyo. The ride takes from 79 minutes to two hours between Tokyo and Nagano, depending on the number of stops on the way. There will be 24 round trips daily during the Games, with each train carrying 600 passengers. Reserved round-trip tickets are \$130; a one-week rail pass good for unlimited travel is \$231.

The old station, a wooden copy of Zenkoji, a temple that is Nagano's most famous site, was torn down; its replacement, a somewhat sterile structure, could just as easily seem at home in Vail or Snowmass. But much has been done to preserve Nagano's natural treasures. Organizers transplanted a plot of special grasses favored by the finicky and endangered Gifu butterfly to make way for a ski run near Hakuba, the town that will be host to the downhill and cross-country events, and local children planted acorns of trees that were sacrificed for the Olympics. Even the Olympic Stadium was built with an eye toward recycling: When the Games are over, a distant memory, Nagano hopes the stadium will be home to a new baseball team.

#### CULTURAL EVENTS

Away from the ski trails and skating rinks, visitors will find numerous cultural events. The Tanaka Honke Museum, the home of a wealthy family during the 18th century, will have an exhibit of Hina dolls from Feb. 4 through April. Hina dolls, which represent the emperor and empress and their attendants attired in traditional finery, usually about 8 inches tall, are taken out each year during a festival for girls in March. The museum offers one of the best glimpses of the opulence enjoyed by Japan's merchant elite, many of whom founded the multinational corporations of today. Tel: 248-8008; closed Tuesday, \$5. (The country and city codes for Nagano are 81-26.) At Nagano Station, catch the Nagano Dentetsu for Suzuka Station; from there, it is five minutes by cab.

During the Games, the Nagano Prefectural Cultural Center, 284 Wakasato, Ohaza, 226-0008, will showcase Japanese drama and music. At noon on Feb. 8, about 1,000 students of the Suzuki method will give a free concert. Kodo, a troupe of children who play traditional Japanese drums, will perform at the cultural center on Feb. 10 at 6:30 P.M. Tickets, \$33 to \$41, available through Ticket Pia on the ground floor of the Nagano Station.

On Feb. 12 at 6 P.M., the center will offer two traditional kyogen plays, or short comic dramas, as well as a kyogen take on "Hamlet." Tickets (\$33) are available at the cultural center the day of

the show or in advance at 227-0011 or 227-3000.

An unusual version of kabuki will be staged at the Kitan Bungeiza, a local theater, at 1625 Nishigo-cho, 233-3111, from 2 to 4 P.M. on Feb. 14. Actors and musicians from Oshika, south of Nagano, will present a play performed in their hometown for the last 300 years. But unlike regular kabuki, in which all the parts are played by men, Oshika's kabuki includes women. The show is free, with seating on a first-come, first-served basis. It will be followed from 6 to 7 P.M. by a *ningyo joruri*, a traditional puppet show, from Iida, a city in Nagano prefecture.

The centerpiece of the Winter Games is the Olympic Stadium, in Nagano. The walls of the third floor of the stadium, designed by a team of architects at Rui Sekkei-Shitsu, an Osaka firm, represent the petals and calyx of a *sakura*, or cherry blossom, Japan's national flower.

According to Yuichi Salto, the lead architect, when his team visited Nagano, they were impressed by the power of the surrounding mountains. In ancient Japan, the mountain god was called Sa no Kami, and his seat was called Sa Kura, which offered the architects a convenient theme for the stadium that both reflected Japan as a whole and Nagano specifically.

About 25 miles (40 kilometers) from Nagano is Hakuba, where alpine and cross-country skiing events will be held and the best known of Japan's "cluster" ski areas. The name refers to both the town and the 9,619-foot (2,930-meter) mountain it sits on. According to lore, a group of farmers many years ago decided that a patch of snow that always survives the summer resembled a white horse, or *hakuba*.

**K**ARUIZAWA, where curling will be held, is a summer escape for the movers and shakers who run Japan Inc. It can be reached by Shinkansen from Tokyo on the same route that goes to Nagano, although not all trains stop there. The town lies at the foot of Mount Asama, one of many active volcanoes in Japan (it hasn't erupted since 1783). About an hour's bus ride from town one can walk in the lava fields.

Olympic spectators who need to warm their bodies can get a free sample of sake just outside of Zenkoji's west gate at Yoshinoya, where one can witness the sake-making process as well. Yoshinoya, 237-5000, is near the Zenkoji-shita Station, the third stop from Nagano Station on the Nagano Dentetsu.

If you haven't booked for the Games, your chances of getting a Western-style room in one of the cookie-cutter hotels that have sprung up are slim to none.

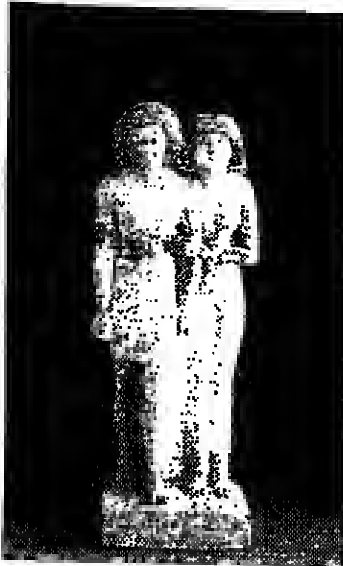
Around Nagano, Japanese-style inns, called ryokans, are still reporting vacancies; if you don't mind sharing a steaming hot bath and sleeping on a futon, many of them give a view of Japan that's missed in a conventional hotel. In Hakuba, owners of inns have complained that bookings are actually lower than in the past because people think they have no chance of getting a room. The Hakuba ryokan association can be reached at (81-261) 72-2279.

**HOT SPRINGS** Nature has provided the time-honored complement to a day of skiing: the hot tub. Hot springs (*onsen*) dot the area, testament to the volcanic activity stewing far below. The Ryokan Sakaya at Nozawa Onsen, one of Japan's most famous onsens, has a *rotenburo*, a bath exposed to the sky. Rooms at Sakaya, (0269) 85-3118, range from \$147.50 to \$205 a person, which includes two meals, plus 8 percent tax and a \$1.25 onsen tax.

The Kiriya Ryokan, (0269) 85-2020, is built around a pretty Japanese garden. Rooms: \$123 to \$205 a person, including two meals, plus taxes. Nozawa Onsen is about an hour from Nagano Station on the JR Hiyama line to Togari Nozawa Onsen Station.



LEISURE



Treasures displayed in the Louvre include a double Egyptian statue, "Lot and His Daughters" by Guercino, a bust of a woman from about 2,500 B.C., a Fayum "mummy portrait," and a Madonna and saints by Anselmi.

# Grand Louvre Gets Grandeur With New Egyptian Galleries

By Alan Riding  
New York Times Service

**P**ARIS — The inauguration of I.M. Pei's glass pyramid at the Louvre Museum in 1989 was such a watershed that it seemed hard to imagine that it marked only the first stage of a \$1.2 billion project to modernize the great palace of art. Still ahead lay a task that was less visually spectacular than the pyramid, but no less important to the Louvre — refurbishing and expanding its galleries and reorganizing its immense collection. Now, more than eight years later (and 17 years after President Francois Mitterrand set in motion the transformation of the Louvre), the end is within sight.

In 1993, the Louvre absorbed the northern Richelieu Wing, home to the Finance Ministry since 1820, and gained 230,000 square feet (about 21,300 square meters) of space, including three covered (but naturally lighted) courtyards for large statuary. Also in 1993 came in-

auguration of the glitzy Carrousel du Louvre shopping mall, which leads to the museum's main reception area below the pyramid and is designed around another glass pyramid, this one inverted.

In 1997, the Grand Louvre project took several fresh strides toward completion, with installation of the Museum of Fashion and Textiles and the Museum of Decorative Arts, renovation of some galleries for Italian paintings and Roman antiquities and the opening of the Sully Wing — financed by the American philanthropists Mortimer and Theresa Sackler — for Oriental antiquities. Finally, on Dec. 21, President Jacques Chirac inaugurated a further 107,000 square feet of restored and renovated gallery space, most of it in the eastern Sully Wing.

It was this last expansion, though, that has generated special excitement because, among other things, it involved a new presentation of the Louvre's vast collection of Egyptian antiquities. Ever since Napoleon's occupation of Egypt, 1798 to 1801, the French have had a

love affair with the world of the pharaohs, fueled by the remarkable stone statues, steles and tombs that now stand in the Louvre, removed from Egypt by 19th-century French archaeologists. (Imperial powers like France and Britain preferred to think they were protecting mankind's artistic heritage rather than looting.)

## 5,000 WORKS ON SHOW

Now with 60 percent more space for its Egyptian collection, the Louvre has increased the number of pieces on show in 30 newly restored rooms from 4,000 to 5,000 (of a total of 55,000), enabling it to boast the world's greatest display of Egyptian antiquities outside Cairo. On the first floor of the Sully Wing, the collection is presented thematically, covering everything from life along the Nile, farming and hunting, to writing, dwellings, temples and funerary rites. On the floor above, the display is chronological, from the end of prehistory

around 4000 B.C. to Cleopatra and the arrival of the Romans around 30 B.C. Here, the Louvre has opted for a theatrical mise-en-scene, using sphinxes, marble pillars and statues to re-create the mood of the great Egyptian temples.

In the southern Denon Wing of the museum, the Louvre has two series of new rooms devoted to later Egypt. One focuses on the funerary practices of Roman Egypt and includes painted shrouds, examples of the famous Fayum mummy portraits, several elaborate coffins and the mummified body of an unidentified man. In the other rooms, Coptic Egypt, which begins in the third century A.D. and continues through the Arab conquest

in the mid-seventh century, is represented by tapestries, writing and iconographic imagery. And, most dramatically, the monastery church at Baouit, Egypt, has been reconstructed in the Louvre.

The new areas opened to the public also include freshly restored and newly occupied rooms for Greek, Etruscan and Roman antiquities. The pre-Hellenic gallery, now beautifully installed in Napoleon III's former stables, displays 300 works, one-third of them never shown to the public before, and covers the period from Cycladic art starting in 3,000 B.C. to Archaic art in the sixth century B.C. The Campana collection of Greek vases now has more space, plus new lighting and air-conditioning, in the Sully Wing.

And Roman precious metalwork benefits from a new display.

Finally, the Grande Galerie, the stunning 600-foot hall that borders the Seine, was reopened last month, dedicated largely to 15th-, 16th- and 17th-century Italian painting, including works by Fra Angelico, Piero della Francesca, Raphael, Leonardo and Caravaggio. Still pending are restoration of 50,000 square feet of galleries, reconstruction of a walkway — the Passerelle Solferino — over the Seine from the Tuileries Gardens to the Musee d'Orsay and installation of a Louvre annex to a new Museum of Mankind. Arts and Civilizations that Chirac dreams of opening in the old Museum of Man at the Trocadero.

## ARTS GUIDE

### AUSTRIA

**VIENNA**  
Kunsthistorisches Museum, tel: (1) 5525-24403, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To April 14: "Bruegel: Tradition und Fortschritt." Paintings by Pieter Bruegel the Elder as well as paintings and works on paper by his two sons, Jan the Elder and Peter the Younger.

### BRITAIN

**EDINBURGH**  
National Gallery of Scotland, tel: (131) 332-2266, open daily. To Jan. 31: "Turner Watercolours." For more than 90 years, these 38 watercolors by the British painter have been displayed during the month of January exclusively, at the request of the donor.

**LONDON**  
Victoria & Albert Museum, tel: (171) 938-8441, open daily. Continuing/ To March 29: "Colours of the Indus: Costumes and Textiles of Pakistan."

### FRANCE

**PARIS**  
Grand Palais, tel: 01-44-13-17-17, closed Tuesdays. Continuing/ To Jan. 26: "Georges de La Tour, 1593-1652." Musée d'Orsay, tel: 01-40-49-48-14, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 2: "William Hammett." A selection of paintings by the Danish artist (1864-1918). Musée Marmottan, tel: 01-42-24-27-02, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 28: "Bertha Morisot." Works by the French Impressionist artist. Petit Palais, tel: 01-42-65-12-73, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 15: "Marianne et Germania, 1789-1889: Un Siècle de Passions Franco-Allemandes." Paintings, drawings, sculptures, and musical and literary items document the history of Franco-German relations.

### GERMANY

**FRANKFURT**  
Schirn Kunsthalle, tel: (69) 299-882-0, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 1: "Between Heaven and Earth." Icons and illuminated manuscripts dating from the 14th to the 18th centuries on loan from state museums in Moscow.

**MUNICH**  
Deichtorhallen, tel: (40) 32-10-30, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 1: "Francis Picabia: Das Spätwerk, 1933-1953." Late paintings and drawings by the French artist (1879-1953).

### HONG KONG

**Hong Kong Museum**, tel: 2734-2167, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 1: "National Treasures: Gems of China's Cultural Relics." Bronze, jade, ivory, silver and gold objects, as well as lacquerware and stone carving dating back to the Neolithic era.

### ISRAEL

**JERUSALEM**  
Israel Museum, tel: (2) 6708-811, open daily. Continuing/ To Jan. 31: "Propaganda and Vision: Soviet and Israeli Art, 1930-1965." Works created under Stalin are contrasted with Israeli works of the same period.

### ITALY

**ROME**  
Capitoline Museum, tel: (6) 6710-2071, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Jan. 20: "Henri Matisse: La Révélation m'est Venue de l'Orient." Documents the influence of Oriental art in Matisse's work.

### LUXEMBOURG

**Casino Luxembourg**, tel: 22-50-45, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 1: "Affinités Electives: La Peinture Européenne en Dialogue." Brings together works by 50 European artists.

### NETHERLANDS

**AMSTERDAM**  
Rijksmuseum, tel: (20) 673-2121, open daily. Continuing/ To March

3: "On Country Roads and Fields." A tribute to landscape paintings by 18th- and 19th-century Dutch artists.

**THE HAGUE**  
Mauritshuis, tel: (70) 302-34-35, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To March 29: "Princely Patrons: The Collection of Frederik Hendrik of Orange and Amalia van Solms in The Hague." Works by Rembrandt, Rubens and Van Dyck.

### PORTUGAL

**LISBON**  
Centro Cultural de Belem, tel: (1) 302-9606, open daily. Continuing/ To Feb. 12: "Modern Art in Portugal, 1910-1940." A juxtaposition of works by Portuguese artists and documents relating to Fernando Pessoa.

### SWITZERLAND

**ZURICH**  
Kunsthhaus, tel: (1) 251-6765, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Jan. 18: "Arnold Böcklin, Giorgio De Chirico, Max Ernst: Eine Reise ins Ungewisse." More than 200 works cover 120 years of painting from Romanticism and Symbolism to Surrealism.

### UNITED STATES

**NEW YORK**  
Metropolitan Museum of Art, tel: (212) 570-3791, closed Mondays. Continuing/ To Feb. 8: "Jackson Pollock: Sketchbooks and Drawings." Works by the American Abstract Expressionist painter (1912-1956). Pierpont Morgan Library, tel: (212) 685-0006, closed Mondays. To April 26: "A Seal Upon Thine Heart: Glyptic Art of the Ancient Near East, ca. 3500 to 2100 B.C." Approximately 100 seals carved on semiprecious stones that use pictorial symbols to communicate ideas.

**WASHINGTON**  
National Gallery of Art, tel: (202) 737-4215, open daily. Continuing/ To March 15: "Manet and the Impressionists at Gore Saint-Lazare." How the Paris station triggered painters' creativity, including Monet and Caillebotte.

### CLOSING SOON

Jan. 11: "Zuloaga: Spanish Treasures from the Kroll Collection." Victoria & Albert Museum, London. Jan. 11: "Cobra." Kunsthalle der Hypo-Kulturstiftung, Munich. Jan. 11: "Johann Heinrich Fussli:

Das Verlorene Paradies." Staatsgalerie, Stuttgart. Jan. 11: "Expressionismo Tedesco: Arte e Società, 1909-1923." Palazzo Grassi, Venice. Jan. 11: "Moments of Eternity: Egyptian Art from Private Collections." Musée d'Art, Geneva. Jan. 11: "The Private Collection of

Edgar Degas." Metropolitan Museum of Art, New York. Jan. 11: "Half Past Autumn: The Art of Gordon Parks." Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington. Jan. 11: "Thomas Moran." National Gallery of Art, Washington. Jan. 12: "Prothon, 1759-1823." Grand Palais, Paris.

## MOVIE GUIDE

### THE BOXER

Directed by Jim Sheridan. Ireland.

In his third splendid collaboration with Daniel Day-Lewis (including "My Left Foot"), Jim Sheridan returns to the politics of Northern Ireland and takes a markedly different stance about the Troubles. Though Day-Lewis plays a man dealing with imprisonment as he did in Sheridan's "In the Name of the Father," this more reflective and mature film sees a bigger picture. Day-Lewis's Danny Flynn was once a firebrand for the Irish Republican Army, but 14 years' incarceration has seasoned him. Released from prison and returning to everyday life in Belfast as the film begins, Danny plays the role of an impossible: a peaceful, quiet life. Sheridan's fine, galvanizing film, which teams Day-Lewis in a love story with the magical Emily Watson of "Breaking the Waves," shares that same yearning. Acknowledging the terrible toll that conflict has taken, the film wonders how to come to terms with so bloody a past. It frames the question starkly while avoiding easy answers, although the central metaphors of boxing and prison powerfully reflect a wider awareness of Belfast's plight. Each of the film's well-drawn characters is embroiled or caught in various ways. "The Boxer" reacquaints shy, lonely Danny with his long-lost sweetheart, Maggie (Watson), even as it reinvents him in the turmoil that sent him to jail. Day-Lewis, looking wearily rugged and battling his way through several plausible boxing matches, once again breathes fire into the character of a high-minded loner, and his vitality lends real force to the film's moral arguments. Watson beautifully conveys all of Maggie's melting ambivalence about a man who has been gone 14 years. The pain on view in "The Boxer" intensifies with the effort to unite Protestants and Catholics in a nonsectarian boxing club, with unflinching hatred and suspicion of the police, with children like Maggie's son growing up in an atmosphere of time-

hoored vengeance, and with the high toll that violence takes on some of the secondary characters. Yet this film, despite the grief it describes, dares to sound a note of hopefulness, too. Sheridan tells a story of bravery, love and renewal with the stirring conviction that such things are possible even in perpetually embattled places. What better holiday wish than to hope he is right? (Janet Maslin, NYT)



Emily Watson and Daniel Day-Lewis in "The Boxer."

### CARRTERAS SECUNDARIAS

Directed by Emilio Martinez-Lazaro. Spain.

There is plenty of magic in this slice-of-life film set in 1974, a year before Franco's death. The well-crafted plot centers on a hapless yet lovable widower father (Antonio Resines) who drags his clever 15-year-old son (Fernando Ramallo) along on endless petty business capers and romances that finally pry open the truth about the father's secret history. The clue is provided by the backdrop of the Patty Hearst kidnapping saga in California, which the film's characters observe at intervals on Spanish television, along with images of their dying dictator. It is as if the father and son, and the nation itself, are looking for a way to get off the

back roads (carreteras secundarias) and onto the main highways of modernity. As a period piece, the film hirms with the humor of Spaniards struggling ingeniously to make ends meet. Veteran actor Resines propels the drama and romance, here displaying unusual verve, along with Mariel Verdu as his young girlfriend. In previous films she typically played little more than a shapely woman, but here she delivers some credible acting. The key trio is completed by Ramallo, a young actor who captures the frustration and optimism of the teenager aiming to make his mark. (Al Goodman, IHT)

### MR. MAGOO

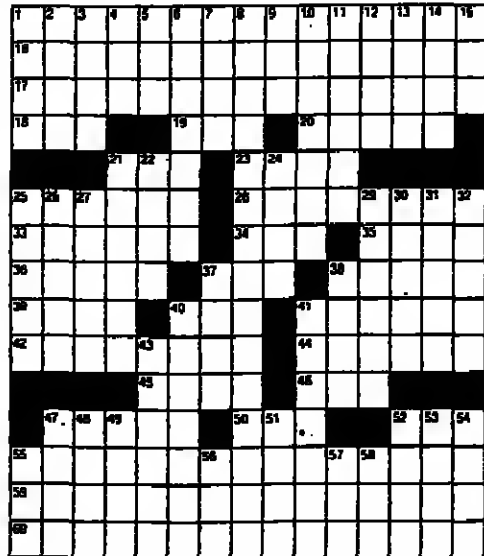
Directed by Stanley Tong. U.S.

Leslie Nielsen's fleshy recreation of the myopic cartoon is apt to make you gnash your teeth. Although Nielsen knows from bumbling — as hilariously demonstrated in "The Naked Gun" — he's too coarse and edgy to suit such a refined and warm-hearted character. Not that he gets any help from director Stanley Tong, whose filmography includes the Jackie Chan vehicles "Rumble in the Bronx," "Super-cop" and "First Strike," is, to say the least, an unlikely choice for the job of directing a hit comedy. There are some kids to be had in these flicks, but what Tong knows about comedy wouldn't fill a whoopee cushion. Penned by "Hot Shots" writer Pat Proft and his long-time chum, Tom Sherohman, the simplistic scenario concerns the hapless hero's run-in with a ring of jewel thieves and a pair of G-men who wrongly suspect Magoo of stealing a huge ruby from a display in the city's new museum. As a rule, Magoo's exploits are barely enough to sustain a four-minute kiddie cartoon, much less a full-length feature. It also doesn't help that the movie's opening and closing credits feature the more amiable and amusing animated Magoo. If anybody is short-sighted here, it's not Magoo. It's the studio. (Rita Kempley, WP)

## CROSSWORD

**ACROSS**  
1 Time worn, as a joke  
14 Prince, perhaps  
17 Errors  
18 Beast of burden  
19 Resistance unit  
20 Country bumpkins  
21 Flood refuge  
22 Brice —  
23 —, jar pits  
28 Yum-Yum lover in "The Mikado"  
33 Big Ten team  
34 Some radios  
35 Concern for Claudius  
36 Lodge members  
37 It may be glossed over  
38 — Connor of "The Terminator"  
39 Drill  
40 Up to, informally  
41 Little one  
42 Symbol of welcome  
43 Took (off)  
44 Stole, perhaps  
45 Amb. worker  
47 Rusty on the diamond  
48 Substitute for the unlisted

**DOWN**  
1 "For goodness sake!"  
2 "Star Wars" princess  
3 Magnetic —  
4 Roman candle path  
5 Penn or Union: Abb.  
6 Hawaiian island  
7 Leave one's mark on  
8 Brief description  
9 Abode of the dead, in Norse myth  
10 Many Mormons  
11 "No respect" for Rodney Dangerfield  
12 With 27 Down, old English character actor  
13 Start of an explanation  
14 Wilson and Harding, e.g.  
15 The Platters' "Mine"  
21 Up  
22 Owl's Island escapes Belbenoit  
24 Right for the disabled  
25 It's neither here nor there  
26 Throw for —  
27 See 12-Down  
28 Going nowhere  
29 Menace  
30 By Barynesque  
31 Was audibly impressed  
32 Portray  
33 Canned product since 1937  
34 New York's Bridge  
35 Kind of soup, in the South  
36 Wear it in good health  
37 Met home  
38 Mission  
39 "Vusi d' Irom" "Josca"  
40 Prefix with type  
41 were  
42 Latin grammar last. Abb.  
43 To be, in old Rome  
44 100 lbs.



© New York Times/Edited by Will Shortz.

### Solution to Puzzle of Jan. 8

JARS SACKS LAGS  
ABEE PLAIN ALIAS  
MADAM BUTTERFLY  
ACUTE USU LOADS  
LABOURE CAM  
GENIAL IER IONA  
EVIL EIDER MAYL  
BEST ERA IBERIA  
ARIADNE DEL  
BAS TUMANDOT  
MARAT OHM NORMA  
OPERASBUDICINI  
OSLO STENO LSAT

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## INTERNATIONAL

## Khatami: 'There Must First Be a Crack in This Wall of Mistrust'

Following are excerpts of the televised interview with the Iranian president, Mohammed Khatami, from a translation and transcript supplied by CNN.

**Introductory Remarks:**  
The American civilization is worthy of respect. When we appreciate the roots of this civilization, its significance becomes even more apparent.

The American civilization is founded upon the vision, thinking, and manners of the Puritans. Certainly, others such as adventurers, those searching for gold, and even sea pirates, also arrived in the U.S. But the American nation has never celebrated their arrival and never considered it to be the beginning of their civilization. The Puritans constituted a religious sect whose vision and characteristics, in addition to worshipping God, was in harmony with republicanism, democracy, and freedom.

Unfortunately, in the 16th, 17th, and even 18th centuries, there was a serious clash between religion and liberty. In my opinion, one of the biggest tragedies in human history is this confrontation between religion and liberty, which is to the detriment of religion, liberty, and the human beings who deserve to have both.

And as we see, even today Americans are a religious people. Therefore, the Anglo-American

approach to religion relies on the principle that religion and liberty are consistent and compatible. I believe that if humanity is looking for happiness, it should combine religious spirituality with the virtues of liberty.

In terms of the dialogue of civilizations, we intend to benefit from the achievements and experiences of all civilizations, Western and non-Western, and to hold dialogue with them. The closer the pillars and essences of these two civilizations are, the easier the dialogue would become.

With our revolution, we are experiencing a new phase of reconstruction of civilization. We feel that what we seek is what the founders of the American civilization were also pursuing four centuries ago. This is why we sense an intellectual affinity with the essence of the American civilization.

**On U.S. Foreign Policy:**

Unfortunately, policies pursued by American politicians outside the United States over the past half a century since World War II are incompatible with the American civilization, which is founded on democracy, freedom and human dignity.

After the collapse of communism, there has been an attempt by certain circles to portray Islam as the new enemy, and regrettably they are targeting progressive Islam rather than certain regressive interpretations of Islam.

**On the U.S. Embassy hostage crisis:**

The events of those days must be viewed within the context of revolutionary fervor and the pressures to which the Iranian nation was subjected, causing it to seek a way to express its anxieties and concerns. Today we are in the period of stability, and

**'We sense an intellectual affinity with the essence of the American civilization.'**

fully adhere to all norms of conduct regulating relations between nations and governments.

**On dialogue with the U.S. government:**

The dialogue between civilizations and nations is different from political relations. In regard to political relations, we have to consider the factors that lead to the severance of relations. If some day another situation is to emerge, we must definitely consider the roots and relevant factors and try to eliminate them. There must first be a crack in this wall of mistrust to prepare for a change.

**On Iran's alleged support of terrorism:**

We believe in the holy Koran that says: slaying of one innocent person is tantamount to the slaying of all humanity. How could such a religion, and those who claim to be its followers, get involved in the assassination of innocent individuals and the slaughter of innocent human beings. We categorically reject all these allegations.

**On Israel:**

I regret to say that the improper American policy of unbridled support for the aggressions of a racist terrorist regime does not serve U.S. interests, nor does it even serve that of the Jewish people. The Israeli intransigence in the course of the current peace process and its failure to honor its own undertakings has enraged even U.S. allies in the region. In my view, peace can come to the Middle East when all Palestinians, Jews and Muslims alike, can determine the future of the land. Meanwhile, we believe the United States should not risk the substantial prestige and credibility of the American people on supporting a racist regime that does not even have the backing of the Jewish people.

**On nuclear ambitions:**

We are not a nuclear power and do not intend to become one. We have accepted IAEA safeguards and our facilities are routinely inspected by that agency.

## Iranian Press Mostly Praises President's Address on TV

Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches

TEHRAN — Most Iranian newspapers on Thursday endorsed President Mohammed Khatami's cautious offer of a dialogue with the American people, but warned that the United States had far to go before ties were restored.

The Iranian public came out more strongly in favor of building bridges with the United States — an offer Mr. Khatami made in his interview Wednesday with CNN.

Mr. Khatami is a "shrewd politician with the courage to create a logical dialogue with the outside world," Iran News, which reflects the views of the Foreign Ministry, said in an editorial.

"On the whole, Khatami proved he had nothing new to say on the issue of establishing relations with the United States," the paper said.

But it added that the United States must also make efforts to mend ties.

A hard-line Iranian newspaper, however, criticized Mr. Khatami for voicing regret in his television address to the American people over the 1979 hostage-taking at the U.S. embassy in Tehran.

"That revolutionary action is today put on trial as an emotional act of an early revolutionary era," the daily Kayhan said in a commentary about Mr. Khatami's interview with CNN. "Why should our nation have to pay to please Western tastes?"

Mr. Khatami said he regretted how the incident months after the 1979 Islamic revolution in which militants stormed the embassy and kept 52 American hostages for 444 days, had hurt Americans' feelings. He said it was important to note that it occurred "in the heat of revolutionary fervor."

An editorial in the Tehran Times, which generally reflects the conservative clergy's views, was significant in taking a neutral tone.

The Times said it was essential that real feelings of Iranians be conveyed to the American people, who can "exert pressure on their administration to cease plots" against Iran.

The conservative daily Resalat played down Mr. Khatami's conciliatory remarks and said the president had exposed "the U.S. politicians' crimes and injustices in the past 50 years."

Tehran radio, which along with state television carried the entire interview after it was aired by CNN, stressed Mr. Khatami's critical remarks about U.S. leaders in its news bulletins.

Many Iranians praised Mr. Khatami's address, while others said he should have detailed U.S. wrongdoing against Iran.



Tatyana Suskin, in a Jerusalem court Thursday, said: "I'm not sorry."

## Israeli Sentenced for Pig Poster

Anti-Muslim Drawing Gets Nationalist a 2-Year Jail Term

Reuters

JERUSALEM — An Israeli court, recalling Nazi caricatures of Jews, sentenced an extreme-nationalist Jewish woman to two years in jail on Thursday for putting up posters in the West Bank depicting Islam's Prophet Mohammed as a pig.

"Everything I did was out of love for the land of Israel," said Tatyana Suskin, a 26-year-old Russian immigrant and supporter of the outlawed anti-Arab group Kach.

"I'm not sorry — what should I be sorry about," she said after the judge imposed a three-year sentence, one year of which was suspended. "My grandparents were killed by the Nazis. I think they're proud of me."

Miss Suskin's action in Hebron in June incensed the Muslim world and sparked Palestinian riots in the divided West Bank town, which is sacred to Muslim and Jews.

Last week, the Jerusalem District Court found her guilty of committing a racist act, trying to harm religious sensitivities, supporting a terrorist group, damaging public property and endangering life by stoning an Arab car.

Judge Zvi Segal said "every citizen of Israel should be aware of the dangers of offending religious sensitivities." "We must remember those Nazi caricatures," Judge Segal said, "which were full of hatred to the point of erasing the human identity of the people they depicted."

Miss Suskin, who said before the session that she was ready to go to jail for "freedom of speech," shot back angrily: "What kind of comparisons are you making? My drawings are Nazi? The Nazis took actions, these were simply drawings — so what?"

She put up the posters on 20 storefronts on the Palestinian-ruled side of Hebron on a Friday night in June. Prosecutors accused her of throwing a stone at an Arab car the next morning.

Pigs are considered unclean by both Judaism and Islam.

The court could have sentenced Miss Suskin to a maximum prison term of more than 20 years. But in determining the sentence Judge Segal said he had taken into consideration the fact that Miss Suskin was "not completely mentally well."

## Czech Finance Minister Resigns From Klaus Party

Reuters

PRAGUE — Finance Minister Ivan Filip resigned Thursday from the Civic Democratic Party.

But Mr. Filip indicated that he would remain in the new government of Prime Minister Josef Tousek.

He said that he was ending his membership in the Civic Democratic Party because it had "decided not to clarify its financial scandals."

been the driver of a surveillance car in the bombing. He told the FBI in early 1996 that an Iranian official had recruited him in 1995 to help track U.S. military operations in Saudi Arabia in preparation for possible terrorist attacks. But Mr. Sayegh has refused to elaborate, and the investigation has ground to a halt.

"It's very likely that we will never get to the bottom of this," a senior intelligence official said last week, saying he meant that Washington will probably never turn up the "smoking gun" evidence against the Iranians that would warrant a stiff U.S. response.

An approach favored by top Saudi officials is to persuade the new government of Iran to prove its bona fides by halting financial and material support to those who want to destabilize the kingdom.

The Middle East official said that would amount to a repudiation of the hard-line policies of the past, and send a signal to radicals throughout the region that Iran was no longer a safe haven.

## ALGERIA: West to Approach Government

Continued from Page 1

openness to scrutiny from the outside. This week both the U.S. government and the United Nations' top human rights officials have urged the Algerian leadership to cooperate with international inquiries.

Even as it has reportedly consented to these visits, the government of President Liamine Zerrouk continued to criticize calls for an independent investigation of the massacres. A dispatch in the official Algerian press agency APS said the U.S. envoy to Algeria had been summoned and reminded of Algeria's "categorical rejection" of an international commission of inquiry, "whatever its form or nature."

Since just before the beginning of the Muslim holy month of Ramadan on Dec. 30, about 1,000 civilians have been shot, hacked or burned to death in nighttime terrorist assaults. The attacks are popularly and officially suspected of being the work of Muslim fundamentalist guerrillas, but in some cases are also blamed on government-armed militias, the security forces themselves or free-ranging warlords and bandits.

News services and Algerian newspapers reported Thursday that about 30 more people died in two raids near Algiers and in the western region of Relizane, where more than 400 people in four villages died in a single night of carnage on the last day of 1997. This was the grisly record-setting episode that precipitated the latest round of international concern.

In the affected area of Relizane, about

## Yousef Gets 240 Years for Blast at N.Y. Trade Center

Agence France-Press

NEW YORK — Ramzi Ahmed Yousef, a Pakistani convicted of masterminding the 1993 World Trade Center blast and plotting to blow up airliners, was sentenced Thursday to life in prison without parole.

In sentencing Mr. Yousef to a total of 240 years behind bars, Judge Kevin Duffy of U.S. District Court said Mr. Yousef would spend the rest of his life in solitary confinement with restricted visiting rights.

At the sentencing hearing, Judge Duffy said Mr. Yousef was "a follower of death and destruction." "It was your god, your master, your only devotion," he said. "Yes, I am a terrorist and am proud of it," Mr. Yousef said. "I support terrorism."

Saying that a publisher might be "perverse enough to buy your story," Judge Duffy also fined Mr. Yousef \$4.5 million and ordered him to pay \$250 million in damages to ensure that any gain would go to his victims.

Six people were killed and about 1,000 injured in the February 1993 World Trade Center blast.

In November, Mr. Yousef was found guilty on 11 counts in connection with the blast.

The jail sentence also covers Mr. Yousef's September 1996 conviction for plotting to blow up airliners flying between Asia and the United States.

That sentencing had been postponed to avoid influencing the jurors in the World Trade Center trial.

Mr. Yousef's co-defendant in the case, Eyad Ismail, 26, was scheduled for sentencing next Monday.

Mr. Ismail, who holds a Jordanian passport, has acknowledged being the driver of the truck used in the blast, but said he did not know it contained a bomb.

## POLICY: Turning Point in U.S.-Iran Ties?

Continued from Page 1

ambassadors to contribute to a secret war on its neighbors?

But a year ago no one was even raising such a question. Then, many American and Middle East officials expected that Washington's investigation of the bombing would lead inexorably toward almost certain confrontation with Tehran, at a minimum provoking additional diplomatic sanctions and at most a military strike on Iran. Officials at the Pentagon went so far as to identify possible targets.

A lot has changed since then, and many officials in Washington and the Middle East no longer expect such a blunt confrontation.

Instead, private discussion in the American and Saudi capitals has shifted away from the question of how Iran might be punished to how the issue of past sins by its hard-liners might be manipulated to strengthen the hand of the moderates in Iran and erode the power of Ayatollah Khamenei and his radical backers.

The new focus, in short, is not so much on settling old scores over what may already have been done, but on ensuring that no Iranian-inspired terrorism occurs in the future.

A key intervening factor was the election in May of Mohammed Khatami as president: a moderate cleric who some American intelligence officials and Middle East diplomats have concluded is genuinely open to warmer relations with the West and likely to take a less provocative stance toward U.S. allies in the Gulf.

Among his reforms is the appoint-

ment of a new minister of intelligence, who could exercise some control over those whom Ayatollah Khamenei allegedly said in 1993 were to spearhead the anti-Western campaign.

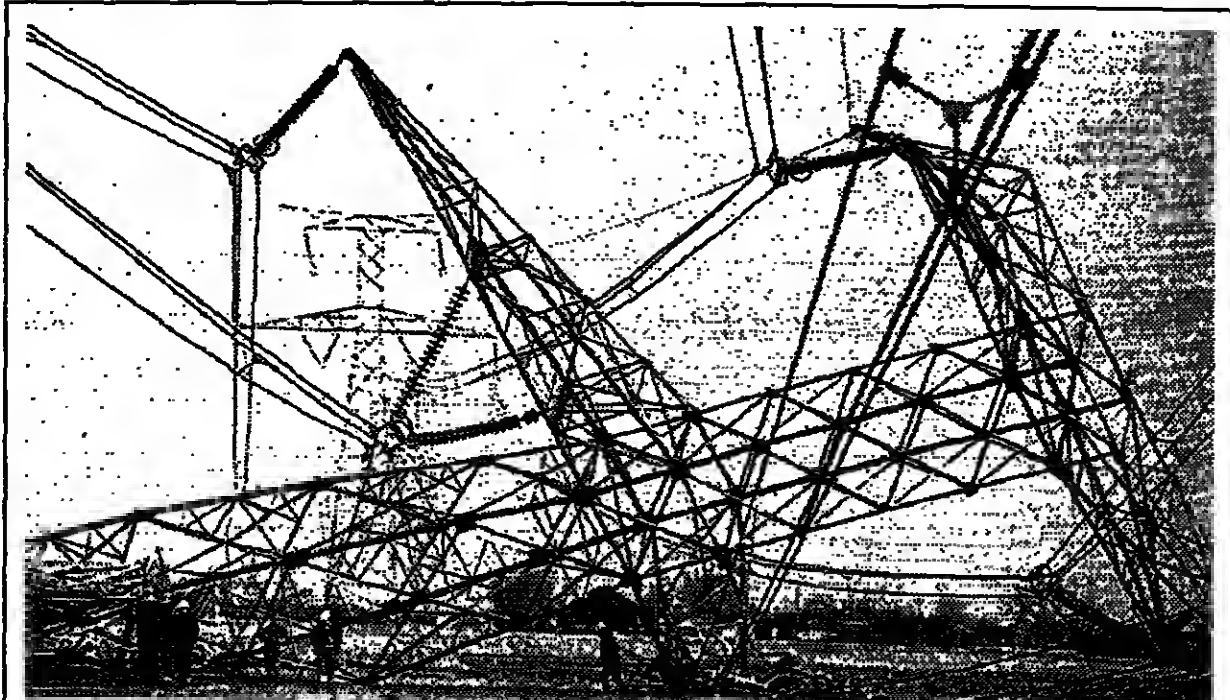
"It's not the same as it was four months ago, when Iran was seen as the enemy," an official in the Middle East said. "The election was a turning point. It toned down the desire" of the Saudis to strike at Iran somehow.

The official added: "It's not that they are no longer seen as a threat. But there is a recognition of a genuine conflict taking place between the old guard and a more moderate faction, and it seems Khatami is prevailing."

Another factor is what U.S. law enforcement officials described as an extended lull in Washington's closely held inquiry into the Saudi Arabia bombing, which the officials ascribed to a lack of solid leads and a continuing Saudi reluctance to provide direct U.S. access to those imprisoned for involvement in the blast or to share key evidence.

When the families of the Americans who were killed or wounded were briefed on the inquiry last month, the FBI director, Louis Freeh, had little optimism to convey. "We did not report to them great progress," he said afterward. "We did not report to them the imminence of an indictment or charges. We said we were frustrated with certain aspects of the case."

There is abundant circumstantial evidence linking Iranian officials and sympathizers to the bombing, officials said. Hani Abdel Rahim Sayegh was alleged by the Canadian authorities to have



DOWN AND OUT — Firemen examining the wreckage of a high-voltage electric pylon Thursday in Saint-Omer-Cappelle. It was toppled by a tornado that ripped through six coastal towns in northern France.

## IRAN: U.S. Ponders the Potential for Talks

Continued from Page 1

[The White House also said that Mr. Clinton's foreign policy advisers would examine the policy on restricting cultural exchanges with Iran in light of Mr. Khatami's remarks. Reuters reported.]

[The White House spokesman, Michael McCurry, asked whether the United States would consider lifting visa restrictions to allow cultural exchanges with Iran, said the rules would be reviewed: "In the aftermath of President Khatami's interview last night, that will be examined by the president's foreign policy advisers. It's way too soon to speculate on what, if any, action may result."]

A response to Mr. Khatami's speech drafted by Secretary of State Madeleine Albright and Samuel Berger, the national security adviser, included a call for the first talks since the overthrow of Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlavi in 1979. Previous U.S. statements set conditions for such talks — that they be officially authorized and acknowledged in public — but did not propose that talks begin.

Three vital questions, all fiercely debated in recent weeks by specialists in and out of the administration, remained unanswered by the interview with the correspondent Christiane Amanpour.

Officials said they had no consensus yet on the extent of Mr. Khatami's struggle with the hard-line clerics who lead Iran, on who is winning the struggle or on what Mr. Khatami's motives may be for what nearly every analyst described as a remarkable overture.

Those who see a struggle with the religious leader Ayatollah Sayed Ali Khamenei pointed to Mr. Khatami's

lengthy discourse on the virtues of American civilization as a model of religion and liberty and a "harbinger of independence struggles" for other peoples, including Iranians.

"Not only do we not harbor any ill wishes for the American people, but in fact we consider them to be a great nation," he said.

That vision of America comes in stunning contrast to the Iranian rhetoric of two decades, of "the Great Satan" and "the center of global arrogance" — the subjugator of other peoples, that is, and the principal source of evil in the world.

"We have simply not heard anything like this before," said an administration official known for a hard-line view toward Iran. "I frankly find it encouraging that he is doing this in public rather than try to do it in secret."

Skeptics in and out of the administration noted Mr. Khatami's statements of allegiance to Ayatollah Khamenei and his attacks on U.S. administrations since World War II as "adventurers" bent on a "flawed policy of domination."

They also pointed to Mr. Khatami's repetition of the formula that "supporting peoples who fight for the liberation of their land is not, in my opinion, supporting terrorism."

The Clinton administration, like its predecessors, accuses Iran of material and ideological support for Islamic militants, including Islamic Jihad and Hezbollah, whose attacks on Israel commonly result in civilian casualties. In the interview, Mr. Khatami referred to Israel as a "racist terrorist regime."

The most critical disagreement among Mr. Clinton's advisers is whether

Mr. Khatami intended his interview as a genuine overture to the United States or a wedge between it and its Western allies. Some officials said they suspected it to be a form of rhetorical judo, aimed at ending Iran's isolation and isolating the U.S. policy on Iran.

Mahnaz Afkhami, director of the Foundation for Iranian Studies, echoing some administration officials, said: "My own idea is that this is more in terms of

giving a more rational, moderate image of Iran, to strengthen Iran's ties with other potential partners — in the Arab world, in Europe and in Asia."

Mindful of the disastrous results of secret efforts in the past, most notably the Iran-contra affair of the 1980s, the Clinton administration has insisted, as the State Department spokesman James Rubin put it Wednesday night, that "a dialogue between the United States and Iran

must be an authorized dialogue, it must be one that is openly acknowledged."

But open acknowledgment goes only so far, and senior officials said they did not feel obliged to disclose whether preliminary feelers — talks about talks — were in prospect or under way.

Asked whether either side had approached the other through intermediaries, two officials central to U.S. Middle East policy declined to reply.

## GERMANY: Surveillance Returns

Continued from Page 1

"This represents a massive violation of the constitutional protections and editorial privacy," said Hermann Meyn, chairman of the national union of journalists. "Informants will no longer feel safe talking with journalists in their homes or in their offices. We will not be down and accept the loss of this press freedom."

Leaders of the Social Democrats, whose support was necessary because they control the Bundestag, the upper house of Parliament, said they agreed to back the legislation after winning assurances that some professional groups, such as priests and lawyers, would not be subjected to eavesdropping. They also stressed that police would have to obtain court permission in advance for any kind of surveillance activity.

The restrictions on telephone taps and mail intercepts were relaxed only during a national emergency two decades ago when Germany confronted a wave of terrorist activities.

Gerhard Vogler, chairman of the German police union, said law enforcement groups were gratified that for the first time they would be able to use eavesdropping equipment in private residences in order to gather evidence.

But he lamented that the legislation could prove too little and too late in coping with the escalation in car thefts, drug trafficking and prostitution rings now practiced by international crime syndicates across Europe.

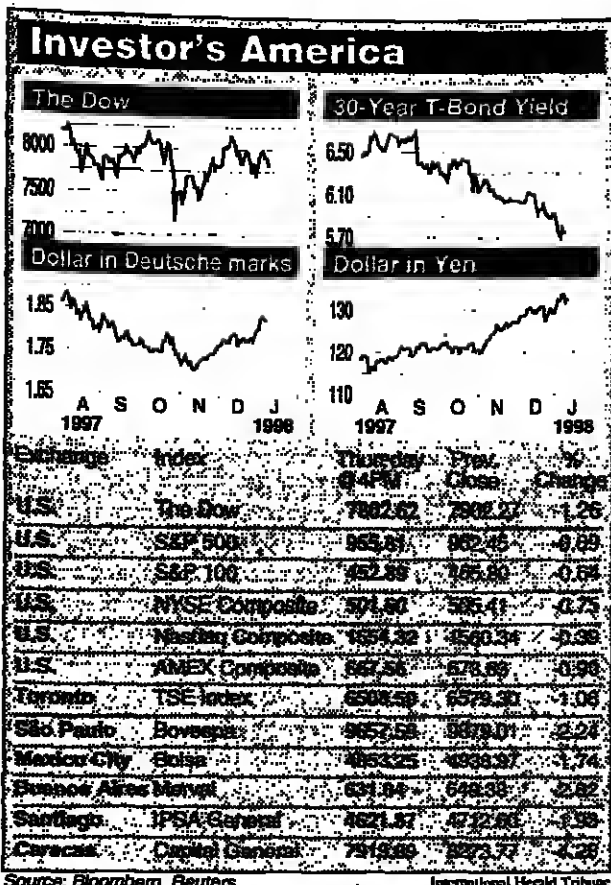
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2000



## THE AMERICAS



## Very briefly:

- Toys 'R' Us Inc. plans to buy back \$1 billion, or 11 percent, of its own stock over four years, and said it had adopted a shareholder-rights plan that would help thwart a hostile takeover, although it said it did not think it had been targeted.
- Texaco Inc. plans to spend as much as \$500 million exploring coal-bed methane gas reserves in eastern China; the company also said it was in preliminary talks to jointly develop oil projects in Kazakhstan with China's National Petroleum Corp.
- Amazon.com Inc. resumed service on its bookstore site on the Internet on Thursday morning after it shut down the site because of technical problems Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 P.M. The company offered a 10 percent discount to customers who visited the on-line store while it was down.
- Brazil's inflation rate slowed in 1997 to the lowest annual pace in 47 years. Consumer price increases in greater Sao Paulo slowed to 4.86 percent in 1997, from 10.03 percent in 1996. Inflation has not been so low in Brazil since 1950, when inflation was 3.59 percent.
- Dow Jones & Co. named Paul Ingrassia, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, president of its Dow Jones News Service unit. Mr. Ingrassia, 47, had been executive editor of the news service since 1995 and chief operating officer since 1996. He replaces Carl Valent, who is retiring.

## Analysts Cut Chrysler Estimates

DETROIT — Chrysler Corp.'s 1998 earnings estimates were lowered by as much as 10 percent on Thursday by some analysts, who cited higher-than-expected incentives and costs related to the redesigned 1999 Jeep Grand Cherokee. The automaker's chief executive, Robert Eaton, told analysts at a meeting that 1998 incentives were likely to be unchanged from 1997's average of \$1,100 per vehicle. Chrysler stock was down \$2.3125, at \$32.6875 to late trading.

## Dollar Rallies On Doubt Yen Will Get Help

NEW YORK — The dollar rebounded against the yen Thursday as concern faded that U.S. and Japanese officials were planning to join in selling the U.S. currency to curb its gains.

The dollar regained most of the three yen it lost Wednesday as traders' focus shifted back to Japan's flagging economy and troubles in its financial system. Tumbling currencies and stock markets across Asia also weighed on the yen.

"Pledges to cooperate on currency moves will be seen as halfhearted and unconvincing against the deepening financial market crisis," said Tim Fox, a treasury economist at Standard Chartered PLC in London. "With pressure on local Asian currencies intensifying, the yen gave up its gains."

At 4 P.M. the dollar was at 132.65 yen, up from 131.855 yen at the close Wednesday though down from the five-and-a-half-year high of 134.43 noted earlier in the day.

But the dollar was lower against most major European currencies as currency traders reacted to the decline in U.S. stocks.

The dollar fell to 1.8215 Deutsche marks, from 1.8258 DM. The U.S. currency also dipped to 6.0925 French francs from 6.1040 francs a day earlier, and to 1.4755 Swiss francs from 1.4765 francs.

But the pound stood at \$1.6125, compared with \$1.6258.

## Stocks Slip on Fears About Overseas Profit

NEW YORK — Stocks fell Thursday, dropping for a third day as further setbacks in Asian markets raised concern that overseas profit of banks such as Citicorp and Chase Manhattan Corp. will slump.

"Corporate profits are in question, valuations are extreme and the economic background is shaky, particularly in Asia," said Henry G. Van der Eb, president of Mathus & Co. in Bancroft, Illinois, which oversees more than \$200 million.

"We're headed for the first down January in a while."

The Dow Jones industrial average closed at 7,802.62, down 99.65 points. Declining issues outnumbered advancing ones by a 9-to-5 ratio on the New York Stock Exchange.

Broader market indicators also fell. The Standard & Poor's 500-stock index closed at 956.04, down 7.96 points, and the Nasdaq composite index finished at 1,555.55, down 6.15 points.

Indonesian stocks traded in New York declined following a drop of 12 percent in Indonesia's benchmark stock index to a four-year low.

I.P. Morgan, Bankers Trust New York, BankBoston and First Chicago NBD all dropped.

Two of the three most-active stocks were Phyco and MedPartners, which fell after Phyco's scuttled its planned \$8 billion purchase of MedPartners over differences on how to run the business of managing physicians' practices.

Also among the day's most active stocks was Seagate Technology, which fell after the company said it expected a "substantial" loss from operations in its fiscal second quarter, citing a steep drop in prices for computer disk drives. It was Seagate's second warning in two months.

Auto shares fell after Chrysler issued a profit warning. General Motors and Ford were lower.

Talbots shares slid after the company warned it will have a steep fiscal fourth-quarter loss, instead of an expected profit, because it needs to mark down its women's apparel after poor year-end sales.

"There's no sign of a bounce back" to come to U.S. stocks, said Michael Lyons, a trader at Morgan Stanley, Dean Witter, Discover & Co. "The Asia markets are down, you've got Seagate coming in with lousy numbers. Nothing is pointing up."

"This is a tough environment to trade in," said Michael Driscoll, senior block trader at Hambrecht & Quist.

Stocks failed to benefit from a drop in the yield on the benchmark 30-year Treasury bond to 5.74 percent from 5.79 percent.

Yields fell after the government said the producer price index declined a larger-than-forecast 0.2 percent in December, reinforcing expectations for scant inflation.

U.S. STOCKS

The American depositary receipts of PT Indosat and PT Telkom were among the decliners.

Bank shares slumped. Tumbling currencies in Asia are expected to dent banks' trading profits, while slowing economies in the region increase the chances that businesses will not be able to pay back loans, analysts said.

The Keefe, Bruyette & Woods Bank Index fell 12.00 in late trading to 718.06, the third straight day that the index dropped more than 1 percent.

Citicorp, Chase Manhattan, I.P. Morgan, Bankers Trust New York, BankBoston and First Chicago NBD all dropped.

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## A Teen Mag From the House That Luce Built

NEW YORK — A new magazine is scheduled to hit the newsstands Friday, and it is something of a significant departure for its publisher, Time Inc., that male bastion of testosterone titles like Time, Sports Illustrated, Money and Fortune.

Teen People, a monthly aimed at teenage girls, combines the standard teen fare of beauty, fashion and boys with the People magazine formula that has proved so successful: articles about celebrities and entertainment, leavened with a dose of real-life issues.

But it goes beyond the People approach into a type of service journalism that has steadily been infiltrating the Time Inc. stable to the point that it now includes everything from In Style's celebrity "living rooms" to Cooking Light's high-calorie goat cheese quesadillas.

Given Time Inc.'s reputation as a male-dominated company that has spoken mostly to adult male readers, Teen People also exemplifies the latest and perhaps most extreme example of how the company is aggressively extending its reach to new audiences: women, children, teenagers and minority groups.

"I've always felt that women and children are underserved," said Ann Moore, president of People, In Style, Teen People and People en Español. "Marketing to women, writing to women is not something we traditionally did at Time. We had a lot of men's books, a lot of news magazines, but we didn't have a division that understood women. I think we have that expertise now."

Teen People is entering a crowded, intensely competitive market and Time Inc. has gone down this road before. In 1994, the company unsuccessfully tested the teen magazine Mouth 2 Mouth, a venture that joined a graveyard already crowded with failed teen titles. More recently, Sassy folded and was merged into Teen by Petersen Publishing, which owned both.

Nevertheless, the market has grown stronger, and Teen People will jockey for newsstand attention with such heavyweights as Primed's Seventeen (circulation 2.5 million), Gruner & Jahr's YM (2.1 million) and Petersen's Teen (1.7 million).

## Microsoft Now in the Dashboard

REDMOND, Washington — Microsoft Corp. has introduced an operating system for personal computers that can slide into a slot in a car dashboard or fit in the palm of a hand.

The Palm PC and Auto PC software will widen the family of products that run on Microsoft's Windows CE 2.0 operating system, Craig Mundie, senior vice president for consumer platforms, said Wednesday night at the Consumer Electronics Show in Las Vegas. The software will be delivered to hardware companies — including Casio Computer Co., Philips Electronics NV and Clarion Co. — in the first quarter, he said.

Windows CE was introduced in October 1996, and Mr. Mundie said 500,000 hand-held PCs have been shipped with the system since then. Palm PC devices will compete with the market-leading PalmPilot, made by 3Com Corp.

The Auto PC is about the size of a car radio and combines the features of an electronic organizer, pager, radio, electronic navigator and compact-disk player. It uses speech recognition to allow drivers to keep their hands on the wheel while using the device to listen to electronic mail or check traffic conditions.

**Thursday's 4 P.M. Close**  
The 300 most traded stocks of the day, up to the closing on Wall Street.  
The Associated Press.

Stock	Sales	High	Low	Latest	Change
ABC	10	20 1/2	20 1/4	20 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
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Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/4
Adair-Pan	20	22 1/2	22 1/4	22 1/2	1/







## 12 Month 32%

The 2,400 most traded stocks of the day.  
 Nationwide prices not reflecting late trades elsewhere.  
*The Associated Press*

12 Month \$36[illegible]

12 Month	52 Week	Stock	Div Yld	PE	100 High	Low	Latest	Change
2000	2200	Berkshire A	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2001	2100	Berkshire B	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2002	2000	Berkshire C	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2003	1900	Berkshire D	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2004	1800	Berkshire E	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2005	1700	Berkshire F	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2006	1600	Berkshire G	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2007	1500	Berkshire H	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2008	1400	Berkshire I	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2009	1300	Berkshire J	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2010	1200	Berkshire K	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2011	1100	Berkshire L	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2012	1000	Berkshire M	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2013	900	Berkshire N	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2014	800	Berkshire O	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2015	700	Berkshire P	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2016	600	Berkshire Q	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2017	500	Berkshire R	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2018	400	Berkshire S	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2019	300	Berkshire T	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2020	200	Berkshire U	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2021	100	Berkshire V	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2022	50	Berkshire W	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2023	25	Berkshire X	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2024	12	Berkshire Y	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2025	6	Berkshire Z	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2026	3	Berkshire AA	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2027	1	Berkshire AB	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2028	0	Berkshire AC	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2029	0	Berkshire AD	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2030	0	Berkshire AE	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2031	0	Berkshire AF	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2032	0	Berkshire AG	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2033	0	Berkshire AH	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2034	0	Berkshire AI	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2035	0	Berkshire AJ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2036	0	Berkshire AK	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2037	0	Berkshire AL	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2038	0	Berkshire AM	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2039	0	Berkshire AN	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2040	0	Berkshire AO	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2041	0	Berkshire AP	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2042	0	Berkshire AQ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2043	0	Berkshire AR	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2044	0	Berkshire AS	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2045	0	Berkshire AT	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2046	0	Berkshire AU	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2047	0	Berkshire AV	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2048	0	Berkshire AW	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2049	0	Berkshire AX	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2050	0	Berkshire AY	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2051	0	Berkshire AZ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2052	0	Berkshire BA	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2053	0	Berkshire BB	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2054	0	Berkshire BC	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2055	0	Berkshire BD	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2056	0	Berkshire BE	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2057	0	Berkshire BF	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2058	0	Berkshire BG	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2059	0	Berkshire BH	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2060	0	Berkshire BI	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2061	0	Berkshire BJ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2062	0	Berkshire BK	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2063	0	Berkshire BL	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2064	0	Berkshire BM	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2065	0	Berkshire BN	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2066	0	Berkshire BO	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2067	0	Berkshire BP	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2068	0	Berkshire BQ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2069	0	Berkshire BR	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2070	0	Berkshire BS	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2071	0	Berkshire BT	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2072	0	Berkshire BU	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2073	0	Berkshire BV	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2074	0	Berkshire BW	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2075	0	Berkshire BX	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2076	0	Berkshire BY	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2077	0	Berkshire BZ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2078	0	Berkshire CA	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2079	0	Berkshire CB	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2080	0	Berkshire CC	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2081	0	Berkshire CD	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2082	0	Berkshire CE	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2083	0	Berkshire CF	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2084	0	Berkshire CG	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2085	0	Berkshire CH	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2086	0	Berkshire CI	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2087	0	Berkshire CJ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2088	0	Berkshire CK	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2089	0	Berkshire CL	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2090	0	Berkshire CM	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2091	0	Berkshire CN	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2092	0	Berkshire CO	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2093	0	Berkshire CP	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2094	0	Berkshire CQ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2095	0	Berkshire CR	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2096	0	Berkshire CS	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2097	0	Berkshire CT	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2098	0	Berkshire CU	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2099	0	Berkshire CV	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2100	0	Berkshire CW	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2101	0	Berkshire CX	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2102	0	Berkshire CY	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2103	0	Berkshire CZ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2104	0	Berkshire DA	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2105	0	Berkshire DB	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2106	0	Berkshire DC	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2107	0	Berkshire DD	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2108	0	Berkshire DE	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2109	0	Berkshire DF	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2110	0	Berkshire DG	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2111	0	Berkshire DH	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2112	0	Berkshire DI	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2113	0	Berkshire DJ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2114	0	Berkshire DK	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2115	0	Berkshire DL	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2116	0	Berkshire DM	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2117	0	Berkshire DN	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2118	0	Berkshire DO	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2119	0	Berkshire DP	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2120	0	Berkshire DQ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2121	0	Berkshire DR	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2122	0	Berkshire DS	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2123	0	Berkshire DT	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2124	0	Berkshire DU	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2125	0	Berkshire DV	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2126	0	Berkshire DW	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2127	0	Berkshire DX	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2128	0	Berkshire DY	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2129	0	Berkshire DZ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2130	0	Berkshire EA	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2131	0	Berkshire EB	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2132	0	Berkshire EC	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2133	0	Berkshire ED	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2134	0	Berkshire EE	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2135	0	Berkshire EF	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2136	0	Berkshire EG	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2137	0	Berkshire EH	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2138	0	Berkshire EI	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2139	0	Berkshire EJ	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2140	0	Berkshire EK	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2141	0	Berkshire EL	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2142	0	Berkshire EM	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2143	0	Berkshire EN	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2144	0	Berkshire EO	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	0.00
2145	0	Berkshire EP	0.00	15.0	20.00	10.00	15.00	

Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100% High	Low/Last	Change
2000	27.00	26.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	26.00	+0.00
2000	26.00	25.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	25.00	+0.00
2000	25.00	24.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	24.00	+0.00
2000	24.00	23.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	23.00	+0.00
2000	23.00	22.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	22.00	+0.00
2000	22.00	21.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	21.00	+0.00
2000	21.00	20.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	20.00	+0.00
2000	20.00	19.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	19.00	+0.00
2000	19.00	18.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	18.00	+0.00
2000	18.00	17.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	17.00	+0.00
2000	17.00	16.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	16.00	+0.00
2000	16.00	15.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	15.00	+0.00
2000	15.00	14.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	14.00	+0.00
2000	14.00	13.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	13.00	+0.00
2000	13.00	12.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	12.00	+0.00
2000	12.00	11.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	11.00	+0.00
2000	11.00	10.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	10.00	+0.00
2000	10.00	9.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	9.00	+0.00
2000	9.00	8.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	8.00	+0.00
2000	8.00	7.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	7.00	+0.00
2000	7.00	6.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	6.00	+0.00
2000	6.00	5.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	5.00	+0.00
2000	5.00	4.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	4.00	+0.00
2000	4.00	3.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	3.00	+0.00
2000	3.00	2.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	2.00	+0.00
2000	2.00	1.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	1.00	+0.00
2000	1.00	0.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	0.00	+0.00
2000	0.00	-1.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-1.00	+0.00
2000	-1.00	-2.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-2.00	+0.00
2000	-2.00	-3.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-3.00	+0.00
2000	-3.00	-4.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-4.00	+0.00
2000	-4.00	-5.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-5.00	+0.00
2000	-5.00	-6.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-6.00	+0.00
2000	-6.00	-7.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-7.00	+0.00
2000	-7.00	-8.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-8.00	+0.00
2000	-8.00	-9.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-9.00	+0.00
2000	-9.00	-10.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-10.00	+0.00
2000	-10.00	-11.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-11.00	+0.00
2000	-11.00	-12.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-12.00	+0.00
2000	-12.00	-13.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-13.00	+0.00
2000	-13.00	-14.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-14.00	+0.00
2000	-14.00	-15.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-15.00	+0.00
2000	-15.00	-16.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-16.00	+0.00
2000	-16.00	-17.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-17.00	+0.00
2000	-17.00	-18.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-18.00	+0.00
2000	-18.00	-19.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-19.00	+0.00
2000	-19.00	-20.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-20.00	+0.00
2000	-20.00	-21.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-21.00	+0.00
2000	-21.00	-22.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-22.00	+0.00
2000	-22.00	-23.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-23.00	+0.00
2000	-23.00	-24.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-24.00	+0.00
2000	-24.00	-25.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-25.00	+0.00
2000	-25.00	-26.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-26.00	+0.00
2000	-26.00	-27.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-27.00	+0.00
2000	-27.00	-28.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-28.00	+0.00
2000	-28.00	-29.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-29.00	+0.00
2000	-29.00	-30.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-30.00	+0.00
2000	-30.00	-31.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-31.00	+0.00
2000	-31.00	-32.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-32.00	+0.00
2000	-32.00	-33.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-33.00	+0.00
2000	-33.00	-34.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-34.00	+0.00
2000	-34.00	-35.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-35.00	+0.00
2000	-35.00	-36.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-36.00	+0.00
2000	-36.00	-37.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-37.00	+0.00
2000	-37.00	-38.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-38.00	+0.00
2000	-38.00	-39.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-39.00	+0.00
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2000	-42.00	-43.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-43.00	+0.00
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2000	-45.00	-46.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-46.00	+0.00
2000	-46.00	-47.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-47.00	+0.00
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2000	-51.00	-52.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-52.00	+0.00
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2000	-53.00	-54.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-54.00	+0.00
2000	-54.00	-55.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-55.00	+0.00
2000	-55.00	-56.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-56.00	+0.00
2000	-56.00	-57.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-57.00	+0.00
2000	-57.00	-58.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-58.00	+0.00
2000	-58.00	-59.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-59.00	+0.00
2000	-59.00	-60.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-60.00	+0.00
2000	-60.00	-61.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-61.00	+0.00
2000	-61.00	-62.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-62.00	+0.00
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2000	-63.00	-64.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-64.00	+0.00
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2000	-65.00	-66.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-66.00	+0.00
2000	-66.00	-67.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-67.00	+0.00
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2000	-70.00	-71.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-71.00	+0.00
2000	-71.00	-72.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-72.00	+0.00
2000	-72.00	-73.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-73.00	+0.00
2000	-73.00	-74.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-74.00	+0.00
2000	-74.00	-75.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-75.00	+0.00
2000	-75.00	-76.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-76.00	+0.00
2000	-76.00	-77.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-77.00	+0.00
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2000	-78.00	-79.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-79.00	+0.00
2000	-79.00	-80.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-80.00	+0.00
2000	-80.00	-81.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-81.00	+0.00
2000	-81.00	-82.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-82.00	+0.00
2000	-82.00	-83.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-83.00	+0.00
2000	-83.00	-84.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-84.00	+0.00
2000	-84.00	-85.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-85.00	+0.00
2000	-85.00	-86.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-86.00	+0.00
2000	-86.00	-87.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-87.00	+0.00
2000	-87.00	-88.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-88.00	+0.00
2000	-88.00	-89.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-89.00	+0.00
2000	-89.00	-90.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-90.00	+0.00
2000	-90.00	-91.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-91.00	+0.00
2000	-91.00	-92.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-92.00	+0.00
2000	-92.00	-93.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-93.00	+0.00
2000	-93.00	-94.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-94.00	+0.00
2000	-94.00	-95.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-95.00	+0.00
2000	-95.00	-96.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-96.00	+0.00
2000	-96.00	-97.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-97.00	+0.00
2000	-97.00	-98.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-98.00	+0.00
2000	-98.00	-99.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-99.00	+0.00
2000	-99.00	-100.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	-100.00	+0.00

Month	High	Low	Stock	Div	Yld	PE	100% High	Low/Last	Change
2000	27.00	26.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.20	26.00	+0.00
2000	26.00	25.00	Alcoa	1.40	2.24	22	22.2		

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Continued on Page 16

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ASIA/PACIFIC

# Going Bust Takes Time In Korea

## Bankrupt Firms Get Up to 20 Years of Grace

**Bloomberg News**  
SEOUL — Hanbo Steel & General Construction Co. has been languishing in South Korea's bankruptcy court for a year now, and still none of its creditors have been paid.

Just as the company's collapse was a portent of the perils of years of reckless expansion, its bankruptcy experience shows how hard it will be for the country to recover.

This year, about 500 Seoul-based companies have followed Hanbo in legal proceedings cannot restructure to help pull Korea out of an economic crisis that will all but wipe out growth this year.

"The process has got to be hastened," said Richard Sammelson, head of research at SBC Warburg in Seoul. "The excess workers and excess costs have to be flushed."

For that to happen, big changes are needed, analysts said. For instance, Seoul courts, which oversee almost all the nation's insolvency cases, have just four bankruptcy judges, and current rules allow companies up to 20 years to work out their bankruptcies.

"It's easy for companies to abuse the current system," said Kim Young Ha, a manager at Korea First Bank. He leads the bank's team seeking repayment from another Hanbo Group affiliate.

Korea First itself may be shut down by the government—its non-performing loans amounted to 16.7



THEY JUST WON'T MOVE — A sales lot in Seoul filling up with used cars on Thursday as South Korea's economy remained in the doldrums, with unemployment reaching a four-year high.

percent of total loans at the end of September, the most of any Korean bank.

Hanbo's bankruptcy exposed a loan-for-bribery scandal that implicated presidential aides and forced President Kim Young Sam to apologize. A Korea First Bank official accused of accepting bribes in exchange for approving loans to the company committed suicide.

While the bribery scandal disappeared, the bankruptcy process grinds on.

The government failed three times to auction Hanbo to rival steel producers. The supervising judge appointed an executive from state-run Pohang Iron & Steel Co. to take the management reins.

In August, Hanbo was told it had until Oct. 15 to assemble its list of

creditors and the amount they were owed. In September, creditors sought to begin talks to sell some Hanbo assets, which they said were worth about 4 trillion won.

The October deadline for a creditors' list passed without results, and the company's lawyers now say they will try to have it ready by next month.

To be sure, bankruptcies in any country are messy and contentious. In South Korea, though, the system's problems were magnified by the abrupt collapse of so many companies. More than 15,000 companies failed last year.

For instance, Halla Group, one of the country's biggest conglomerates, went bankrupt last month with debts totaling more than 20 times its equity.

Foreign investors, too, were stiffed in some of the big failures. Jinro Ltd., the country's biggest distiller, for instance, defaulted on a \$30 million convertible bond when it went bankrupt.

Under proposals the government is now considering, companies such as Hanbo may have been shut down months ago. As part of the \$60 billion bailout agreement arranged by the International Monetary Fund last month, the government said it would write new bankruptcy laws.

Shutting down companies wholesale would be a sea change for Korea Inc. — and might trigger violent protests by Korea's labor unions. Until recently, lifetime employment was the norm here, and current law bars companies from firing unless they are financially strapped.

"There is no liquidation experience in Korea for big companies," said Chul Jung Kim, a banking analyst at Ssangyong Securities & Investment Co. "Creditors could have liquidated but they never did."

"Everyone recognizes the reality that actual restructuring is urgently needed," he added. "The change in the environment could make this be realized."

David Roche, chief strategist for Independent Strategy, a London investment advisory firm, put it more bluntly in a recent newspaper editorial:

"Capitalism without bankruptcy," he wrote, "is like Christianity without hell."

# Home Prices Weaken in Hong Kong

**Bloomberg News**

HONG KONG — Sun Hung Kai Properties Ltd., Hong Kong's largest property developer, sold new luxury homes this week for almost half what they fetched nine months ago.

The price — about \$1,000 per square foot — seemed unthinkable last year, when Hong Kong home prices, already three times those in New York, soared to record highs.

Now, prices are down an average 20 percent since October and still falling.

The discounts by Sun Hung Kai Properties show how hard the developer and Hong Kong's entire property market have been hit by the rising interest rates that accompanied Asia's financial turmoil.

"It just confirms the downward trend of the property market," said Stephanie Wang, an analyst at HSBC James Capel Asia Ltd.

Because seven out of 10 companies invest in or develop property here, Sun Hung Kai Properties is a barometer for corporate Hong Kong. The company accounts for almost 6 percent of the benchmark Hang Seng Index, making it the largest developer by market value.


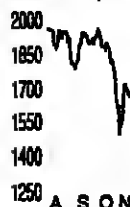

That Hong Kong's largest developer would be willing to sell the new homes at these prices suggests that the property market is headed for more trouble, analysts said.

Shares of property companies fell Thursday on concerns about the effect of rising interest rates on earnings. Wing Tai Holdings Ltd., a real estate developer, fell to an almost five-year low on fears that the company's earnings will be hurt by higher interest rates in view of its already large debt load.

"There is concern over interest rates and their exposure to Hong Kong," said Ng Yow Toog, an analyst at G.K. Goh Research Pte., a local brokerage.

The company recently bought land from the government at higher-than-expected market prices, analysts say. The purchases include sites on Draycott Drive and Newwood Road sites in central Singapore. The company will have to pay more than 550 million Singapore dollars (about \$315 million) for the two sites, which could take its debt burden to between 60 percent to 80 percent of shareholders' equity, analysts estimate.

Other property stocks also fell, including City Developments Ltd. and DBS Land Ltd.

Investor's Asia				
				
A S O N D J 1997 1998		A S O N D J 1997 1998		A S O N D J 1997 1998
Exchange	Index	Thursday Close	Prev. Close	% Change
Hong Kong	Hang Seng	8,254.53	9,538.61	-2.98
Singapore	Straits Times	1,270.70	1,368.06	-7.12
Sydney	All Ordinaries	2,650.70	2,646.90	+0.14
Tokyo	Nikkei 225	15,019.18	15,028.17	-0.06
Kuala Lumpur	Composite	507.16	521.00	-2.66
Bangkok	SET	360.17	370.31	-2.74
Seoul	Composite Index	423.86	409.42	+3.55
Taipei	Stock Market Index	7,778.16	7,835.56	-0.73
Manila	PSE	1,655.85	1,747.34	-6.24
Jakarta	Composite Index	347.11	394.24	-11.95
Wellington	NZSE-40	2,307.91	2,328.31	-0.92
Bombay	Sensitive Index	3,998.16	3,993.31	+0.31

## Very briefly:

- Nomura International PLC said it was willing to pay between 2 billion koruny (\$55.8 million) and 5.88 billion koruny for the Czech government's minority stake in Investici a Postovni Banka AS, the CTK press agency reported.
- Yamaha Motor Co. said it would set up a wholly-owned subsidiary in Singapore as an operational center for the company's Asian business activities.
- Singapore Telecommunications Ltd.'s shares rose 6 cents to 3.08 Singapore dollars (\$1.76) as some investors sought a perceived safe haven with stable earnings amid an expected economic slowdown in Southeast Asian economies.
- NetSteel Broadway Ltd., the China-based manufacturer of electronics parts for consumer products, saw its Singapore-listed shares fall 15 cents, or 20 percent, to 57 cents, amid concern over its exposure to South Korea's Samsung Group, which announced production cuts throughout Asia.
- Cipclap Industries Ltd. of Singapore said it had formed a subsidiary, Cipclap Vietnam Company Ltd., to manufacture electrical-installation products.
- Atlas Co., the Japanese developer of amusement equipment, said it would launch an advanced version of its popular photo-sticker machine in Japan and the United States.
- Hoogkong Telecom said its wholly owned Hongkong Telecom CSL subsidiary had completed an acquisition of the mobile-phone operator Pacific Link Communications Ltd.
- Sharp Corp. denied a report that it had decided against producing only one product — active-matrix liquid crystal display screens of 12.1 inches (31 centimeters) and larger — at a new facility in Mie Prefecture in central Japan.
- The Industrial Bank of Japan Ltd. said it would raise its long-term prime rate 0.3 percentage point to 2.6 percent on Friday, from the current record low of 2.3 percent.
- Reserve Bank of India lifted a rule requiring Indian companies to seek its approval before they accepted foreign direct investment in some critical sectors such as infrastructure and other areas the government calls "priority sectors" for development.

# Motorola Said to Double China Investment

**Reuters**

BEIJING — Motorola Inc. plans to more than double its investment in China by the year 2000, the Xinhua press agency said on Thursday.

Motorola has put \$1.2 billion into a production center in Tianjin. It plans to build a second production center in Suzhou, in the coastal province of Jiangsu, the agency quoted P.Y. Lai, the Motorola China president, as saying. By 2000, Mo-

trola's investment in China would total \$2.5 billion, he said.

All investment would come directly from Motorola's profits in China, he said. Motorola will also invest \$280 million in Leshan, in Sichuan Province, to start an export-oriented semiconductor industry, Mr. Lai said.

Motorola is confident of China's potential because of the lasting boom and the government's com-

mitment to a stable currency.

He cited China's stable political situation, high economic growth rate and foreign exchange reserves of \$140 billion as factors underpinning China's sound financial order and smooth market.

Motorola will launch its North Asia business center in Beijing this year and enhance technological cooperation with China, Xinhua said, without giving further details.

# Toyota Resumes Its Production Of Cars at 2 Plants in Thailand

**Bloomberg News**

BANGKOK — Thailand's dwindling demand to be the "Detroit of Asia" received a small lift Thursday as Toyota Motor Corp. resumed production at its two auto plants near Bangkok after a two-month stoppage because of slow sales.

While Toyota's factory lines are back in business, they are operating at a snail's pace, as Thailand's first recession

sion in 30 years and disintegrating economies throughout Asia have soured demand.

General Motors Corp. and Ford Motor Co. have already scaled back their plans for Thailand, worried that slack demand would leave production facilities idle.

"It doesn't make a lot of sense to have sheet metal rusting in a rice paddy," said Louis Hughes, the GM executive vice president who this week said the company would slash 25 percent from its original \$750 million budget to build a plant in Thailand by 1999.

GM also said the plant would run at less than half the initially forecast capacity of 100,000 units a year and probably shift from making a mid-size car to a smaller car.

Toyota's \$300 million Gateway City plant, about 60 miles (96 kilometers) south of Bangkok, will produce only 300 to 400 units this month, down by about 90 percent from the last full assembly month in 1997, a spokesman said. The company's Samut Prakan plant in suburban Bangkok is scheduled to make 2,000 units in January, 60 percent fewer than in October, the last full month of operation.

GM and Ford announced their plans for Thailand in 1996. Ford had planned to make pickup trucks and sell the majority of its 135,000-unit capacity in Thailand.

Its latest strategy is to build 50,000 units a year for the foreseeable future and try to export most of what it produces.

The cutbacks reflect a 70 percent downturn in auto sales in the past four months from the same period a year earlier, coupled with regional economic strife that has choked sales elsewhere.

In Thailand, car sales were hit by a currency devaluation in July which resulted in an emergency loan from the International Monetary Fund in August. Several tax increases required by the IMF made cars even more expensive for consumers who suddenly had less to spend.

# Car Imports Slump in Japan

**Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches**

TOKYO — Hurt by an increase in the national consumption tax, sales of imported cars, trucks and buses in Japan plunged nearly 15 percent in 1997, the first decrease in five years, auto importers said Thursday.

Ford Motor Co., Volvo AB and Renault were among the biggest losers.

The association forecast that sales of imported cars would not rise in 1998 from last year's levels, another indication that Japan's economic problems would continue to weigh on other countries.

Total imports in 1997 fell to 364,882 units, compared with 427,525 in 1996, a drop of 14.7 percent, the Japan Automobile Importers Association said.

A spokesman for the association said imports were hurt by the increase in April 1997 of the national consumption tax to 5 percent from 3 percent and the elimination of a special income-tax reduction.

The import figures come as slow domestic consumption and increasing exports are fueling Japan's 1.06 trillion yen (\$7.91 billion) trade surplus.

Mr. Sakakibara's high profile had much to do with the wide attention the Washington meetings generated in fi-

# Drop in Tourism For Australia?

**Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches**

GOLD COAST, Australia — The Asian economic crisis could cause a 9 percent drop in visitors to Australia this year and cost the nation about 1.5 billion Australian dollars (\$957 million), a tourism analyst said Thursday.

Alan Midwood, director of the quarterly Queensland Development Report, said he believed about 380,000 fewer people — including 240,000 tourists — would visit Australia this year.

He said the drop in visitors from most of Asia this year was likely to be in the range of 33 percent. "But this will be counteracted to some extent by possible rises of 12 percent from Europe and 8 percent from America and possibly 100 percent from China," he said.

Also Thursday, the government released retail spending figures suggesting that the strong domestic economy would battle the negative impact of the Asian crisis this year.

(AP, Reuters)

# ASIA: Thailand Appeals for Help From G-7 as Crisis Deepens

Continued from Page 1

Mr. Tarrin said the Group of Seven nations should coordinate efforts to lift the strength of the yen, help persuade Asia's creditors not to call back their money and work to promote trade and investment in the region.

The Group of Seven's involvement need not include extra money to support the region's economies, Mr. Tarrin said. "It's a matter of showing leadership in terms of getting together to solve this problem systematically. Just that part alone is sufficient."

"At this point the officials are just out there shooting off a lot of blanks," a currency trader said. "They need to get someone in here with real bullets, like the World Bank, the United States or Japan."

As Indonesia led the downward plunge Thursday, amid political tensions over the future role of President Suharto, Mr. Tarrin warned that future instability could come from "various other countries as well." Hours after Mr. Tarrin spoke, Standard and Poor's Corp. downgraded Thailand's long-term debt to one notch above junk-bond status.

Stock markets throughout the region

tumbled Thursday, with Hong Kong's falling almost 3 percent, Singapore's 7.5 percent, Manila's 5.24 percent and Malaysia's 2.2 percent.

Hong Kong stocks fell for a sixth consecutive day amid growing fears that the colony was losing its status as a relatively safe place for investors in Asia's currency storm. Share prices have fallen 8.69 percent in two days. Weakening currencies across Asia also cast doubt over the Hong Kong dollar's peg to the U.S. dollar. Hong Kong's interest rates were pushed up for a second consecutive day to defend that link.

And in Taipei, Taiwan's central bank was again forced to intervene Thursday to prop up the local currency.

In trading in New York, the dollar was quoted at 94.00 rupiah, up from 83.75 on Wednesday. The dollar was also quoted at 52.65 Thai baht, down from 53.15 baht; at 1.785 Singapore dollars, up from 1.7415 dollars; at 4.705 Malaysian ringgit, up from 4.55 ringgit; at 34.33 Thai dollars, down from 34.41 dollars; and at 7.7458 Hong Kong dollars, up from 7.7365 dollars.

Asia's one bright spot was South Korea, the country that led the region's economic decline for the past few

weeks. The won fell only moderately and recently introduced foreign ownership laws drove buyers to lift the stock index by 3.6 percent, making Seoul the best-performing stock market in Asia this year. The dollar rose to 1.785 won from 1.741 won.

For most of the region's currencies, trading volume has all but evaporated. An average of about \$15 billion worth of each local currency was traded daily up to one year ago, while less than \$2 billion changes hands each day now, a trader said.

Speculators and investors have deserted the market, leaving only local companies desperate to pay back dollar debts and officials who attempt to slow the slide their currencies.

With their credibility under attack and no currency reserves to back up their measures, the region's governments will not be able to restore confidence without outside help, traders and economists said.

"I don't think any one country here is in a position to change the force of market sentiment," said Eric Nickerson, managing director of currency research at Bank of America. "At best, all that the individual governments can do is change little things."

The danger, Mr. Nickerson said, was that officials might be driven to take desperate measures hindering the exchange of currency, which could hurt firms with legitimate need for dollars.

Thailand recently slashed the length of time exporters could hold foreign-currency earnings and plans to announce a set of measures to discourage speculation on Friday.

The Philippines' central bank governor, Gabriel Singson, has vowed to take "drastic measures" to support the peso.

The Philippines has already accelerated the creation of an onshore trading market for forward currency contracts. With local banks now legally taking part in the hedging of currency risk, Mr. Singson said he hoped the new facility would take the "panic out of the market."

## Malaysian Plan for Imports

As the ringgit fell against the dollar, Finance Minister Anwar Ibrahim said Thursday that Malaysia planned to work out agreements with some countries to pay them for imports in currencies other than dollars. The Associated Press reported from Kuala Lumpur.

"Under new contracts we hope that imports from the ASEAN countries, China, Pakistan and India could be made using their respective currencies," Mr. Anwar said.

The Association of South East Asian Nations includes Thailand, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, Brunei, Burma, Laos, Vietnam and Malaysia.

Mr. Anwar said imports denominated in U.S. dollars had become more expensive following the depreciation of the ringgit against the dollar.

"The problem is compounded by the fact that not only imports from the United States and Europe are denominated in U.S. dollars, but also those from other countries," he said.







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**WORLD ROUNDUP**

**Texas Rangers Sold**

**BASEBALL** Tom Hicks agreed to buy the Texas Rangers from a group headed by Governor George Bush of Texas for \$250 million. Hicks also owns the Dallas Stars of the National Hockey League. If the deal is approved by owners, the price would be the second-highest for a baseball team. Fox Sports is awaiting approval on its purchase of the Los Angeles Dodgers, a deal worth about \$350 million. (AP)

**Court Jails Bomb Carrier**

**OLYMPICS** A Stockholm court sentenced Mats Hinz on Thursday to seven years in prison for arson and attempted bombings that may have been protests against Stockholm's bid for the 2004 Olympics. Hinz, 26, was arrested in September in Stockholm carrying a bomb toward a statue used as the symbol of the Olympic bid. The arrest came on the night before the International Olympic Committee voted to hold the games in Athens. Hinz said he had not planned to detonate the bomb but had wanted to embarrass the police as revenge for alleged harassment. (AP)

**Lattak Turns Down Iran**

**SOCCER** Udo Lattek, former coach of Barcelona and Bayern Munich, turned down Thursday an offer to coach Iran in the World Cup finals. "It's not a decision against Iran but one for my family," Lattek said. (Reuters)

**Eagleson Is Jailed**

**HOCKEY** Alan Eagleson, the former head of the NHL players union head was jailed Wednesday after pleading guilty of fraud. On Tuesday, in Boston, Eagleson pleaded guilty to mail fraud and was fined \$700,000. The Hockey Hall of Fame will vote March 31 on expelling him. (AP)

**Linebacker on His Feet**

**FOOTBALL** Reggie Brown, the Detroit linebacker, who was taken from the Silverdome in an ambulance Dec. 21, is back on his feet. Brown, 23, is unlikely to play again. He will undergo rehabilitation in Houston, near his home. Brown dislocated two neck vertebrae and bruised his spinal cord. He was unable to breathe and was resuscitated by a doctor. (AP)

**Chinese Swimmers Suspected of Doping**  
*Vials Labeled as Hormones Found With Team*

*Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches*  
**PERTH, Australia** — Customs officers at Sydney Airport found vials thought to contain growth hormones in a Chinese swimmer's travel bag on Thursday.

Customs officials said the suspected hormones, banned by the governing authority of world swimming, FINA, were found during a search at Sydney Airport where 29 members of the Chinese national swimming team made a stop en route to the world championships in Perth.

A spokesman for the customs service in Sydney said that thirteen vials of liquid, packed in ice, were found in a bag belonging to a female team member. She was later identified as Yuan Yuan, a 1994 world silver medalist.

The spokesman said the vials had not been declared and were clearly labeled in English as "human somatotropin," a growth hormone that can be used as a substitute for muscle-building anabolic steroids.

"A team coach has said that he packed the bag," said John Hawke, regional director of the New South Wales branch of the Australian Customs Service.

The team members were released after some were questioned, and they later caught their scheduled flight for Perth. But the incident threw the world of competitive swimming into turmoil.

Seven members of the Chinese team tested positive for steroids before the 1994 Asian Games in Japan, two months after they won 12 out of 16 events at the world championships in Rome.

FINA officials in Perth have said they can take no action against the Chinese without actual proof of drug-taking.

Other members of the Chinese swimming team, training at a pool in suburban Perth when they received news of the incident, appeared incredulous. Returning to the team hotel nearby, they hid their faces from photographers and walked in without comment.

The Chinese team's leader, Shi Tianshu, declared that his athletes were "clean" when he arrived in Perth earlier this week. He also cautioned the Australian team's head coach, Don Talbot, to "get the facts" before pointing a finger at China following Talbot's publicly expressed doubts about the Chinese team's abstinence from performance enhancers.

Although the hormones are banned by FINA, there is no test to detect them. The vials were found during a routine search of luggage after a customs officer

became suspicious of a person traveling with the team who matched the profile of a narcotics suspect.

Customs officials said it was unlikely that any team members would be prosecuted even if lab tests proved the substance to be growth hormones, because of the small amount found.

"This time they've been caught with their hands in the cookie jar," Talbot said, adding that he was glad. "It makes a lie of the people who have been defending them."

Derek Soelling, a British swimming official, said FINA should consider banning China from the world championships, which began in Perth on Wednesday and end on Jan. 18.

"It'll penalize a lot of innocent people, but it's the only way they'll get the message," Soelling said. "It seemed to us that they had learned their lesson after what happened in 1994, but obviously they haven't. I must admit I'm pretty shocked but it has reinforced the suspicions."

The veteran Australian swimming coach, Forbes Carlile, said FINA's lenient approach had contributed to the Chinese problem. He said FINA had wasted time attacking Winfried Leopold, head coach of the German team, for admitting past doping activity instead of targeting the Chinese.

Leopold regained his accreditation for the championships on Thursday after a judge in the Western Australian Supreme Court decided a case could be made that FINA had denied him justice when it withdrew his accreditation. FINA had withdrawn Leopold's accreditation after he said to reporters on arrival that he had been involved in doping as a coach in East Germany in the 1980s.

"They're so damn clumsy, trying to grandstand," Carlile said of FINA. "Instead of trying to republish an East German, they should have been going after the Chinese." (AP, Reuters)

**Russian Wins a Gold in Diving**

Meanwhile, in the pool on Thursday, Yulia Pakhalina of Russia capped 15 years of training with a gold medal in the women's 3-meter springboard diving event. The Associated Press reported from Perth.

Pakhalina, 20, has been coached by her father since she was 5 years old. She finished her final set of dives with a score of 544.62 points, well clear of Jin Jing Guo of China, who had 518.76.

Chantelle Michell of Australia moved up from 10th place after the semifinals to take the bronze.



A Chinese swimmer, Yuan Yuan, being escorted by a customs officer, left, and a policeman at Perth's airport.

**More Q's Than A's as Golfers Tee Off**

By Clifton Brown  
New York Times Service

**CARLSBAD, California** — When David Duval and Gabriel Hjertqvist stepped to the first tee Thursday at the Mercedes Championships, the short golf winter break ended and one of the most anticipated seasons in PGA Tour history began.

Will Tiger Woods remain the tour's dominant player? Can either Phil Mickelsoo or Colin Montgomerie finally win a major? Can John Daly return as a force in the game? Will the majors continue to be dominated by younger players? Or can over-40 veterans like Greg Norman, Nick Faldo and Nick Price still play their best when it matters most?

The answers will unfold throughout the year, but this week, the competition and the pressure begin. The tour has never been bigger, and winning consistently has never been harder.

Ask Ernie Els, the defending U.S. Open champion and one of the world's top players. He admits he enjoys lifting a beer more than lifting weights. But this off-season, Els made the decision to start working out regularly. He is looking for any edge he can get.

"To accomplish what I want to accomplish, I felt it was something I had to do," Els said.

Some of golf's most recognizable

names are hoping to bounce back from subpar seasons: Fred Couples, Corey Pavin, Payne Stewart, Craig Stadler, Tom Lehman and Daly all were without a victory on the tour last year.

None of those players qualified for this week's 30-man field at La Costa Resort and Spa, reserved for 1997 tournament winners. For the 30 players competing this week, the Mercedes event represents an opportunity to make an early statement with a victory.

This week's two biggest plots involve Woods and Duval. Woods, the defending Mercedes champion, wants to set the tone for another phenomenal year by opening with a victory. Duval, who dominated the last month of 1997 with three victories, hopes to become the first golfer to win four consecutive PGA Tour starts since Ben Hogan in 1953.

Woods won last year's rain-shortened 54-hole Mercedes tournament, defeating Lehman on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff. It served as a springboard for the first six months of the season, when Woods won four tournaments, including the Masters.

But Woods hasn't won since July, and Love and Duval were far more consistent during the second half of 1997. Many expect Woods to dominate the Masters for years to come, because of his length off the tee. But in other majors Woods has never finished higher than 19th.

Meanwhile, last year's other major

winners, Els (U.S. Open), Justin Leonard (British Open), and Love (PGA Championship) believe their best golf is still ahead. Els and Leonard are still in their 20s, and Love is only 33.

"I'd love to win the money title, the scoring title, and all four majors at least once," Love said. "I'm striving for consistency. That keeps you motivated."

**Last Round in Florida**

An 85-year-old former professional golfer shot the manager of a public golf course twice in the chest Wednesday, then killed himself in the pro shop. The Associated Press reported from Mount Dora, Florida.

Ernie Tardiff was angry at being reprimanded by the management for driving his golf cart on the greens and disrupting others' games by moving to tees before they were done, police said.

The board of directors of the Mount Dora Golf Association had written Tardiff several letters and threatened to suspend him from the course.

Police said Tardiff walked into the pro shop Wednesday with one of the letters in his pocket and shot Douglas Passen, 58, who staggered out and collapsed near a group of men teeing off.

Tardiff walked back into the shop to call police, then turned the gun on himself. Passen was listed in stable condition after surgery in an Orlando hospital.

**Slovaks Gain Tennis Final After Beating Australians**

*Compiled by Our Staff From Dispatches*

Karol Kocera and Karina Habsudova of Slovakia ignored a fiercely partisan crowd Thursday to upset Pat Rafter and Annabel Ellwood of Australia and earn a place in the final of the Hopman Cup tennis tournament in Perth.

The Slovak pair needed just over an hour to take the deciding mixed doubles rubber. 7-5, 6-2, for a 2-1 victory. Earlier, Habsudova had come from 0-3 down in the first set to beat Ellwood, 6-3, 6-3. Rafter took 2 hours 25 minutes to beat Kocera, 7-6, 3-6, 7-3.

Slovakia will now meet either France or South Africa, who face off Friday to settle the other place in the final Saturday.

The French duo Mary Pierce and Cedric Pioline beat the United States, the defending champion, 3-0.

Pierce took 52 minutes to beat Chandra Rubin, 6-0, 6-3, and Pioline over appeared extended as he beat Jonathan Stark, 6-4, 6-3.

The French pair won the mixed doubles, 6-4, 7-6.

Bret Steven upset Gustavo Kuerten, the French Open champion, Thursday at the Australian men's hard-

court championships in Adelaide.

Steven, a New Zealander, beat Kuerten, 6-3, 6-3. Kuerten, seeded second, became the seventh out of eight seeded players to be dumped from the event before the quarterfinals.

Steven will play Andre Agassi, who beat Jan Siemerink of the Netherlands, 6-4, 6-3.

Magnus Norman, seeded No. 4, retired from his second-round match against French qualifier Jerome Golmard after twisting his left ankle in the first game of the third set. Norman won the first set, 6-1, but lost the second, 6-2.

Todd Woodbridge, seeded No. 5, won a three-set encounter with German qualifier Jens Knippschild, 6-7 (8-10), 6-2, 6-4.

Brenda Schultz-McCarthy, the No. 1 seed, joined the list of seeded casualties at the Australian women's hard-court championship in Gold Coast when shoulder strain forced her to quit her quarterfinal match against Venezuela's Maria Vento. Schultz-McCarthy, from the Netherlands, trailed, 4-0, in the opening set when she pulled out. She said that because of gusting winds on Thursday, she had to adjust her serve.



Cedric Pioline winning for France.

putting extra strain on her shoulder. Ruxandra Dragomir, the No. 2 seed, also complained about the wind after she lost to Shi-Ting Wang of Taiwan, 6-3, 5-7, 6-3.

Monica Seles is skipping the Australian Open, a tournament where she has never lost, for "personal reasons." Her father, Karoly, who is her coach, is suffering from stomach cancer.

Seles has played the Australian Open four times, winning each time. Mary Joe Fernandez of the United States, twice a finalist at Melbourne, withdrew because of a wrist injury. (AP, Reuters, AFP)

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SPORTS

# Heat Scald Bulls In 99-72 Victory

The Associated Press  
The Miami Heat sent the Chicago Bulls to their most lopsided loss in nearly two years, but the Bulls' coach, Phil Jackson, was not around to see most of it.

Jackson was ejected in the first half for protesting a technical foul on Dennis Rodman, as the Bulls lost, 99-72, Wednesday in Miami.

"We've got the rings. They ain't got no rings," Rodman said. "They beat us. It's one of 82. It's not a big deal."

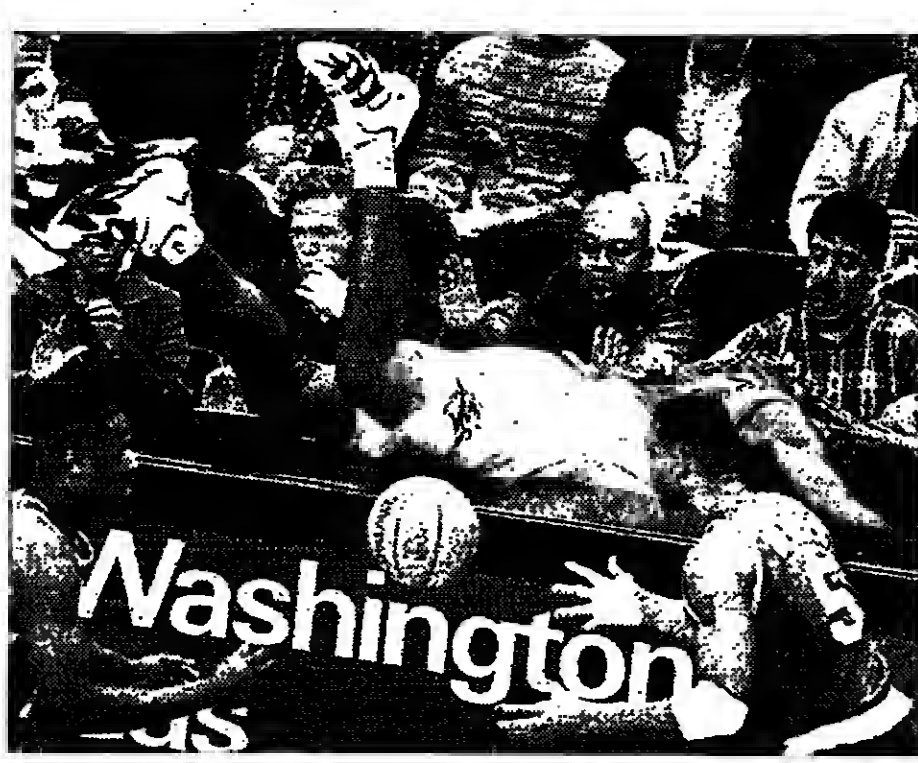
Spurs 96, Nuggets 89 Denver set a team record with its 15th straight loss. The Nuggets dropped to 0-18 on the road.

Warriors 110, Celtics 108 Antoine Walker scored 49 points, the most by a Boston player since Larry Bird hit 49 on March 15, 1992. But, the Celtics lost in Washington.

The Wizards led, 110-107, with 10 seconds left when Jwan Howard called a timeout, but Washington had none left. The referee called the technical foul, and Dana Barros made the shot for Boston, then missed a 3-point shot as time expired.

Five years ago in the NCAA championship game, Chris Webber, now a Wizard, and Howard played for Michigan. In that game, Howard called a timeout but Michigan had none left. This time, Webber gave Howard a big grin.

Clippers 110, Grizzlies 102 The Clippers won their fourth



Wizards' Terry Davis diving over the scorers' table trying to keep the ball inbounds.

## Senators Shut Out the Stars, 2-0

The Associated Press  
Damian Rhodes stopped 34 shots as the Ottawa Senators shut out the Stars in Dallas.

The Senators won, 2-0, on Wednesday night, despite being outshot 34-17.

Dallas, the top team in the National Hockey League, had been unbeaten in its last 10 games.

Chris Murray and Magnus Arvedson scored for the Senators.

Brins 2, Canadiens 1 Steve Heinze scored with just under two minutes left in overtime, giving Boston a victory at Montreal.

# It's the Battle of the Backs

## Broncos vs. Steelers Will Be Won on Ground

By Gerald Eskenazi  
New York Times Service

Jerome Bettis, the Pittsburgh Steelers' usually cheerful running back, is annoyed with the Denver Broncos' Terrell Davis, his chief rival for the title of the American Football Conference's No. 1 running back.

The two men will clash Sunday in Pittsburgh for the conference championship, with the winning team facing the 49ers or the Packers in the Super Bowl.

Bettis has all the respect in the world for Davis, whose running style is that of a jumbo, while Bettis' approach is personified by his nickname, the Bus, bestowed on him by Notre Dame students during his college career.

Bettis looked at a newspaper photo posted in the locker room and was not amused. The picture showed a stack of shirts emblazoned with Davis, who has the Super Bowl XXXII logo behind him. Davis is saying, "Salute this!" The salute is Davis' way of acknowledging the Denver fans when he scores.

"When they have T-shirts they're already making, that's a blatant lack of respect," Bettis said. "So when you see that type of thing you just catalog that in the back of your head and say, O.K., we'll see if you guys get a chance to wear those shirts or you have to burn them."

Bettis also doesn't like the salute, saying, "It works for them, but it kind of backfires every time they lose a game because people find a way to throw it back in their faces."

There is one thing that the running backs agree on.

"I think primarily it will be a running game," Davis said.

"I think we have to run the football," Bettis said. "That's first and foremost. If we can't run the football, we won't do it. We've had to run the football for the last 17 weeks."

The Steelers are only the seventh team since the 1970 merger of the two leagues to lead the conference in rushing offense and rushing defense. The Steelers' defense and Bettis won the last battle of the running backs on Dec. 7, when they faced the Broncos. Bettis chucked out 125 yards, while Davis was held to one of his lower totals of the season, 75 yards. Pittsburgh won. Overall, though, Davis led the conference with his 1,750 yards, second in the National Football League to the Detroit Lions' Barry Sanders. Bettis was third at 1,665.

Bettis remains one of the great Steelers steals. He was the Rams' first-round draft pick in 1993, but soon clashed with management.

After his third season with the Rams, he saw Lou Holtz, his former coach at Notre Dame. "Some impostor was wearing your uniform last year," Holtz said. Bettis had been slowed by an ankle injury and failed to gain 1,000 yards for the first time. Then on draft day in 1996, the Rams picked Lawrence Phillips. The Steelers wheeled a deal out of the Rams, giving second- and fourth-round choices in exchange for Bettis and a third-round pick. In his first season with the Steelers, Bettis amassed 1,431 yards. Now, for a second straight season, the Steelers have voted him the team's most valuable player.

At 5 feet 11 inches and 250 pounds, he seems to be the perfect complement to Kordell Stewart, whose ability to run and throw is rarely seen in NFL quarterbacks.

When Stewart was elevated to the starter's role, Bettis made sure that they got to know each other. They roomed together the week the team was in Ireland for an exhibition game. Bettis told the young quarterback he thought they could make it to the Super Bowl.

Having Kordell as quarterback has added a new dimension," Bettis said. "They have to stop him as a runner and as a passer."

Bettis talks about consistency as his hallmark. He even sees a connection with his other favorite sport, bowling. He has a 200 average. "The pacing and self-discipline — you have to be consistent in throwing the ball the same way," he said. "To be a great running back, you have to be consistent week in and week out. You can't just run 40 yards one week and then have a big week the next."

One other thing in his life remains consistent — the devotion of his family. His mother, father, sister and brother will be at Sunday's game. They have attended almost every one of his games since high school.

## SCOREBOARD

### BASKETBALL

#### NBA STANDINGS

Atlantic Division	West Division
Miami 21, 11, 654, 1	San Antonio 22, 11, 654, 1
New York 19, 14, 574, 2	Utah 21, 11, 654, 2
New Jersey 17, 13, 531, 3	Houston 17, 13, 567, 3
Orlando 16, 16, 529, 4	Minnesota 16, 16, 500, 4
Washington 16, 17, 528, 4	Vancouver 10, 25, 286, 12
Philadelphia 9, 22, 381, 12	Denver 6, 27, 263, 17

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

West Division	Atlantic Division
San Antonio 22, 11, 654, 1	Miami 21, 11, 654, 1
Utah 21, 11, 654, 2	New York 19, 14, 574, 2
Houston 17, 13, 567, 3	New Jersey 17, 13, 531, 3
Minnesota 16, 16, 500, 4	Orlando 16, 16, 529, 4
Vancouver 10, 25, 286, 12	Washington 16, 17, 528, 4
Denver 6, 27, 263, 17	Philadelphia 9, 22, 381, 12

### MAJOR COLLEGE SCORES

Division I	Division II
Duke 64, North Carolina State 50	Kansas 111, Colorado 62
Purdue 77, Penn State 55	Marquette 81, Florida State 76
Michigan 90, Florida 79	South Carolina 71, Vanderbilt 70
Syracuse 77, Providence 59	Xavier 104, La Salle 67
Alabama-Birmingham 65, Marquette 52	Arkansas 83, Mississippi State 70

### EUROLEAGUE

Utenperis 83, Team Telekom 69
CSKA Moscow 78, PAKK Salernita 48

### HOCKEY

#### NHL STANDINGS

Atlantic Division	West Division
New Jersey 27, 13, 56, 1	San Jose 27, 13, 56, 1
Philadelphia 24, 10, 56, 2	Edmonton 24, 10, 56, 2
Washington 24, 10, 56, 2	Calgary 24, 10, 56, 2
N.Y. Rangers 24, 10, 56, 2	St. Louis 24, 10, 56, 2
Florida 24, 10, 56, 2	St. Louis 24, 10, 56, 2

### CRICKET

#### WEST INDIES VS. ZIMBABWE

First Test, 2nd Day, Thursday at Kanpur, India. West Indies 254 & 499-9 declared. Zimbabwe 46-2.

### SWIMMING

#### WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

Men's 50m Freestyle, 1st Round, Thursday, Perth, Australia. 1. Sun Shengli (China) 24.34, 2. Michael Klim (Australia) 24.35, 3. Michael Klim (Australia) 24.36, 4. Michael Klim (Australia) 24.37.

### TRANSITIONS

#### BASEBALL

Baltimore Orioles agreed to trade with INF P.J. Foy, INF Mitch Stens, RHP Kevin G. Loh, LHP Doug Johnson and OF Scott Lively on minor-league contracts.

#### FOOTBALL

Atlanta Braves agreed to trade with INF P.J. Foy, INF Mitch Stens, RHP Kevin G. Loh, LHP Doug Johnson and OF Scott Lively on minor-league contracts.

#### TENNIS

ATLANTA—Agreed terms with LHP Pedro Martinez on a 1-year contract.

## DENNIS THE MENACE



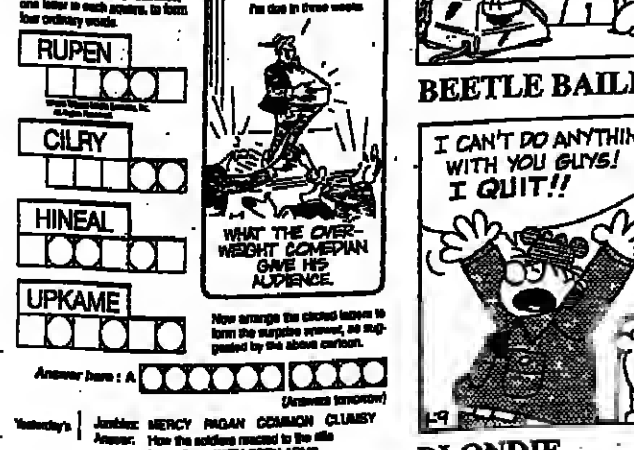
## PEANUTS



## CALVIN AND HOBBES



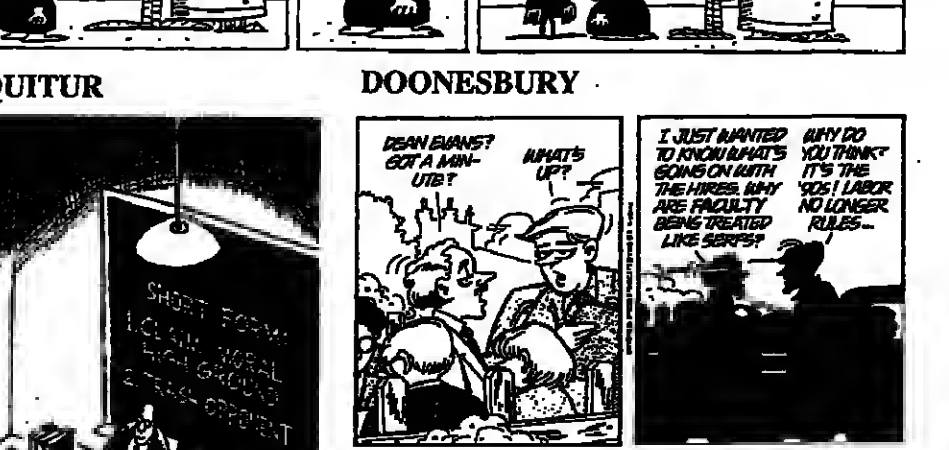
## JUMBLE



## BEETLE BAILEY



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